

# BAY AREA REPORTER

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## Archdiocese Fails to Silence Gay Task Force Report

by George Mendenhall

"When it comes to accepting the Gay lifestyle," Roman Catholic mouthpiece Monsignor Peter Armstrong said this week, "that is something we can never do." The Peninsula priest was appointed by Archbishop John Quinn recently to head the local Roman Catholic Church's controversial Commission on Social Justice. Many believe he is the "James Watt" of the Quinn administration — appointed to destroy the work of the 14-person Task Force on homosexuality. Armstrong replaced the liberal activist Rev. Cuchulain Moriarity, pastor of Holy Redeemer Church, who died last year.

Armstrong appears to be a warm, cooperative person as he speaks on television about the "pain" he feels for the Gay person's problems in society. However, over the Christmas holidays he was maneuvering in personal conversations with commission members — hopeful of disbanding the task force. When the votes were counted, he discovered it was 8-3 to support the task force and continue its work. The task force now seeks ways to implement its study, which

### QUINN DISTURBED

The San Francisco archbishop has remained publicly quiet about the report, which was issued last July, but the official church newspaper, *The Monitor*, ran a two-page attack on it by Berkeley seminary professors Fathers Gerald Coleman and Howard Bleichner.

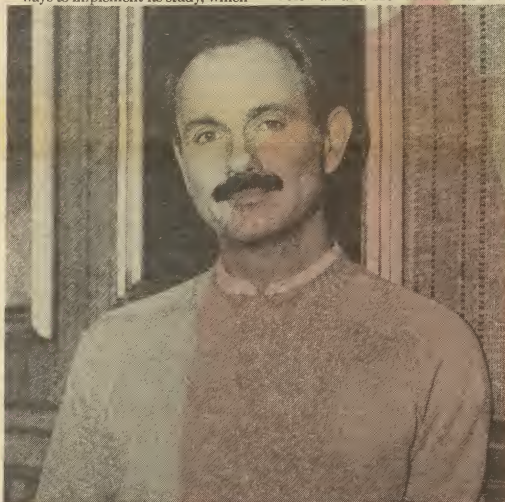
They said the task force recommendations "disregard natural law" and that the commission itself violates its mandate set by the archbishop by recommending changes in church policy that are not "social justice" issues.

All the same, when Quinn sent Armstrong in he gave him firm instructions on how to handle the reformist task force. "There is a growing impression that the task force has taken on a life of its own and become almost a commission within a commission," Quinn said in his letter confirming Armstrong's appointment. "The commission will have to come to grips with the fact that the task force report contains much that is contrary to and incompatible with the moral, ethical, and doctrinal teaching of the church."

What appears to outrage the archdiocese is not the areas of the 54 recommendations that call for better "human relations" but the church's historical position on homosexuality *per se*. Chair Kevin Gordon explains, "This report refuses to accept the distinction between sexual orientation and behavior. It rejects the accepted notion that the orientation is morally neutral, but homosexual behavior is undesirable."

Gordon has been public in his anger that the church implies consistently that its pronouncements on sexual matters are infallible (unquestioned) when in reality they are open to continuing discussion. He said that rather than encourage open debate, the church has chosen to remain officially silent, although the archbishop received the report six months ago. The church, he believes, would have liked to have buried the report

(Continued on Page 12)



Catholic/Gay Task Force chair Kevin Gordon fights archbishop's attempts to disband the group.

## Researchers Say KS Not a Cancer

Writing in the current issue of the British medical journal *Lancet*, Pathologists Dr. Jose Costa and Dr. Alan S. Rabson of the National Cancer Institute in Bethesda, Maryland suggest that Kaposi's sarcoma is not a tumor but a "benign proliferation." Their suggestion needs to be taken seriously if an effective treatment for the disease is to be found.

Kaposi's sarcoma is but one of two dozen diseases that threaten the immunocompromised patient with AIDS (Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome). Treatment for Kaposi's sarcoma, a disease which up to now has generally been considered a "multi-focal" malignancy, has centered around the use of anti-tumor drugs. Unfortunately, such drugs further depress the patient's immune system leaving him unable to fight off parasites, fungi, bacteria and other disease-causing organisms.

The notion that chemotherapy for KS may be doing

more harm than good is not new. In the June 1982 issue of *Cancer Treatment Reports*, Dr. Arthur Levine of the National Cancer Institute, referring to KS patients, warned, "Conventional chemo-therapeutic or radiation treatments will probably not be tolerated in this population." Dr. Alvin Friedman-Kien of the New York University Medical Center, who was one of the first to diagnose Kaposi's sarcoma, put it more bluntly last October when he told AIDS researchers, "We may be treating the tumor, but we're killing the patient."

(Continued on Page 12)



Tony Plewik's First Prize-winning photo at the '83 Cable Car Awards. Over 1,000 celebrants jammed the ninth annual event this past weekend at the Japan Center Theater. Story and list of winners on pages 2 and 3. A photo remembrance on page 4.

## American Express Nixes Gay Phone Sex

by Paul Lorch

A new Gay business and (according to its owner) a highly successful one has taken on American Express. The giant credit card organization has been charged with discrimination by owner Al Hall.

Hall has been in the telephone solicitation trade for five years. In June of 1982 he opened The Connector, a Gay telephone sex line.

A customer calls in and is computer connected to another customer who is on hold. A phone-in is given three choices: 1. strictly JO talk; 2. a get-acquainted, get-together line with locals; and 3. (a new addition) S & M talkers. The phone connection is totally one-on-one and operates 24 hours a day.

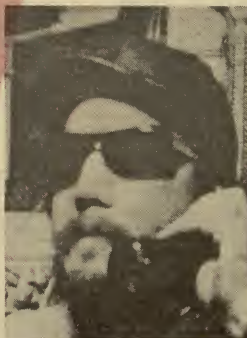
A new subscriber pays \$10 for the first four hours of phone time plus \$2 for each additional hour. Rates get cheaper if one subscribes to longer hook-ups. To expedite sign-ups The Connector takes MasterCard, Visa, and as of December 1982, American Express. The card numbers are verified on the spot, and new subscribers can dial in for their first fantasy. Hall says he has over 1000 subscribers with 50% of them from the Bay Area. Twenty-five percent, says Hall, have been gleaned out of the Bay Area Reporter ad.

Hall applied for American Express Credit Card Service in December 1982. He referred to his business as a computer operated

telephone conference company. Territory Manager Carole Henmi passed on the application. Hall admits, however, "we did not indicate it was sexual or it was Gay." All the same, Hall says, "There was no subterfuge on our part."

Henmi delivered the advertising logos to the press and requested that tear sheets of the published ads be sent to her office. This ap-

(Continued on Page 12)



The Connector's Al Hall feuds with American Express.

### IN THIS ISSUE

OC moves to new site — Upper Market ..... p. 5

Mike Hippler's "From Eureka Valley to the Castro: The Transformation of a Neighborhood" ..... p. 14

Politics and People — Wayne Friday ..... p. 16

HAPPY VALENTINE'S DAY



# An Award for the Awards

## A Valentine to the Cable Car Awards, Pierced with An Arrow or Two

by John F. Karr

Probably no other event so actively encourages one *not* to pay attention as the yearly Cable Car Awards. The show's promised three-hour length is quickly recognized as a dream when the first award presentation lasts twenty minutes. Only forty-four awards, eight entertainers, and two visual presentations left to go. Frightening!

The elephantine size of the event, its famous interminable length, and don't-miss-anyone awards had me predisposed to scoff. The length of the printed program of events became a ball and chain when I saw there was no intermission planned. When this thing gets going, honey, it goes 'til it stops.

Yet we weren't much past the first several awards when my resistance melted away. I found out just what was going on. A crew of twenty was working backstage. Fifty snappily uniformed members of the CMC and GDI's were ushering and patrolling the house, and over 1,000 people were in the audience. Nearly half of those in attendance, I was told, would cross the stage to accept an award. The awards themselves scoured the Gay community, recognizing the famed and the unknown, the public event and the private, the charitable and the capitalist.

"Do they do this in New York?" asked my friend as the magnitude of the event became clear. Nope. San Francisco has the only Gay community unified enough to celebrate such diversity. Scholars applauded bowlers, bars braved for ballet, and leathermen voted for journalists. What an event!

Yet the awards were only a fraction of the show. The audience was a stunner, cutting across the entire community. Everybody who's "Who's Who," everybody who will be "Who's Who," plus a lot of colorful dinosaurs, camp-followers and cheerful grandees were in attendance. It certainly was a Gay event, too. One table had been purchased by a group of friends who decked it out with two silver candelabras, pink candles, and a "tree" dripping rhinestones for a centerpiece. They dripped in matching black pants and pink shirts, drank beer out of stemware, and munched from basketfuls of foodstuffs and delicacies.



Some Cable Car goers brought candelabra and cherry blossoms and stemware and... paper cups? (Photo: Robert Pruzan)

Abigail van Buren appeared on a videoscreen to assure us that all of God's children were Family, even Gays. Her false teeth clicked and she was afflicted with Renata Scotto mouth, speaking out of one side with a raised lip. Film clips of the Gay Games were randomly put together, without rhythm or progression, but we all cheered to remember the moving events. Members of the Task Force on Gay and Lesbian Issues from the Archdiocese of San Francisco came to accept a special citation, their family picnic attire looking positively Midwestern among the tuxes, sequins, and drag around them. Dressed in his evening clothes, Celebrity Host Mr. Marcus looked like my Uncle Oscar, and the Hayward Raw Rahs ran out of routine before they ran out of music. But I couldn't have liked it more.

When I just couldn't take more awards, I slipped guiltily to the

lobby for a breather and found another fabulous party in progression. Everybody who's "Who's Who" was out here, too, sneaking away during an award they didn't care about to chat and dish and drink before jumping back into that mighty river that kept surging on with more Achievement Awards in the auditorium.

Sure, people criticize the event. It's too long and could be shortened. Some of the categories could be better defined, the nominating process refined, the geographical focus of its reach tightened. Some of the awards are downright silly or repetitive of ground already covered. Now in its ninth year, the Cable Car Awards and Show addresses these issues each year, however, and improvements are made. This year new award categories were created to recognize a wider range of endeavor in the women's community and in the journalism field. And surveying the award

categories, the rich variety of Gay people mixing happily together, and sensing the cross-fertilization of the community this show and these awards can bring, the criticism withers. It can be discussed at a board meeting.

A nonprofit organization, the producing group keeps only seed money from the proceeds to begin next year's show. They gave \$1,000 to the Shanti Project at the show, and after accounting, will give the rest of the money back to the community. There's a lot, too, with ticket sales for each four tables earning \$1,000. These donations will be announced soon.

The 1983 Cable Car Awards and Show is an incredibly validating experience. What else can you do that's both boring and a wild good time simultaneously?

★ ★ ★

In no particular order, here's the people and endeavors who were honored for Outstanding Achievements at the 1983 Cable Car Awards.

The Dorothy Langston Human Rights Award to: The KS Foundation; The AIDS Clinic; and Helen Schietinger, a nurse at the KS Clinic at UCSF • The Harvey Milk Community Service Award to the Athletes of the 1982 Gay Games • The Cable Car Board of Directors Recognition Award to: Paul Hardman, *The Voice*, for his series of history columns; Gilbert Baker, for Parade Rainbow Flags; Randy Shilts, for *The Mayor of Castro Street*; The Task Force on Gay/Lesbian Issues of the Committee on Social Justice of the Archdiocese of San Francisco.

Outstanding Contribution to Community Well-Being: Shanti Project • Outstanding Contribution to Entertainment: Meg Christian; Cris Williamson • Outstanding Coverage of Lesbian/Gay Issues in Non-Gay Media: David Perlman, *S.F. Chronicle* • The Emperor Joshua Norton Award: The S.F. Gay Freedom Day Marching Band and Twirling Corps.

Outstanding Achievement in Entertainment Journalism: Penni Kimmel, *The Sentinel* • Outstanding Achievement in Theatre: The

Maids, presented at 544 Natoma Performance Gallery • Outstanding Achievement in Broadcast Journalism: David Lamble, KGO-FM and KPFA • Outstanding Achievement in Sports Journalism: Paul Trefzger, *The Advocate*.

Outstanding Contribution to Athletics: Dee Price, bowling; Barbara Steel, pool; Mal Garcia, bowling; Luby Pelletier, pool; Tom Vindeed, softball • Outstanding Sportsman of the Year: Melanie Coyle, bowling; Barbara Steel, pool; Suzan Riebel, tennis; Rayona Sharpnack, fast-pitch softball; Terry Rogers, slow-pitch softball • Outstanding Sportsman of the Year: Ralph A. Bremner, bowling; Colin Bradley, pool; Glenn Burke, softball; Dean Bauer, tennis.

Outstanding Achievement in Finance: Atlas Savings & Loan • Outstanding Theme Promotion by a Business: The Pendulum, for the Gay World Series • Outstanding Contribution by a Business: Headlines Stores, Inc. and the Starlight Room.

Outstanding Contribution by a Recording Artist: Cris Williamson, for her album *Blue Rider* • Outstanding Club Recording: Sylvester, for his album *All I Need* • Outstanding Cabaret Entertainment: Nicholas, Glover & Wray, for their concert *The 1st Album at the Boarding House* • Outstanding Gay Film Production: *Lost Love* by Cathy Zheutlin, plus a special recognition of Marc Huestis and Whatever Happened to Susan Jane.

Outstanding Poster Design: "World Series Six," Robert Uyvari • Outstanding Photo Journalism: Tony Plewik for Rites of Spring • Outstanding Achievement in Feature Journalism: George Heymont, Free Lance, *The Advocate*; Sue Zemel, *Bay Area Reporter*, *Coming Up!* • Outstanding Columnist of the Year: Mr. Marcus, *The Voice*.

Cable Car Awards Hall of Honor: (Having won three years in a row, the following will be moved to the Hall of Honor and will no longer be eligible) California Motor Club, CMC Carnival; Lesbian/Gay Freedom Day Commit-

(Continued on next page)



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Porn star Leo Ford and Carol Roberts — who won for top entertainer of '82? (Photo: Rink)



## Cable Car Awards

(Continued from previous page)

tee, Parade; The Mint, Tricycle Race; Starlight Room, Theme Promotion by a Business.

Outstanding Contribution from the Women's Community: Women's Run in the Park, produced by the Women's Building • Outstanding Event by the Women's Community: 7th Annual Women's Day in the Park, Golden Gate Park, S.F. NOW • Outstanding Event by a Fraternal-Leather/Levi

ners/Advocate • Outstanding Theme Event: "First Encounter," Moscone Center; "Red Party," Russian Hall, Sisters of Perpetual Indulgence • Outstanding Concert: "Now Sing With Hearts Aglow," S.F. Gay Men's and Mixed Choruses, Nourse Auditorium • Outstanding Competition Event: King and Queen of Hearts Ball, Tony Valentine, Lake Merritt Hotel • Outstanding Entertainer

... But — I couldn't have liked it more.

— John Karr

Organization: Barbary Coasters' Motorcycle Awards • Outstanding Contribution from the Fraternal-Leather/Levi Community: Darryl Lotter Fundraiser, Don Geist, Febe's • Outstanding Christmas Promotion by a Business: Midnight Sun • Outstanding Athletic Event: Gay Run '82, Front Run-

of the Year: Carol Roberts, Foodsexual • Outstanding Fundraiser: Basketball Game for Gay Olympics, Sisters of Perpetual Indulgence, Kezar Pavilion • Outstanding Community Event: Castro Street Fair, Castro Street Fair Inc. • Award of Merit: Gay Softball League.



Gordon Armstrong and Mary Dunlap present a Cable Car Award to RC Task Force chair Kevin Gordon. (Photo: Rink)

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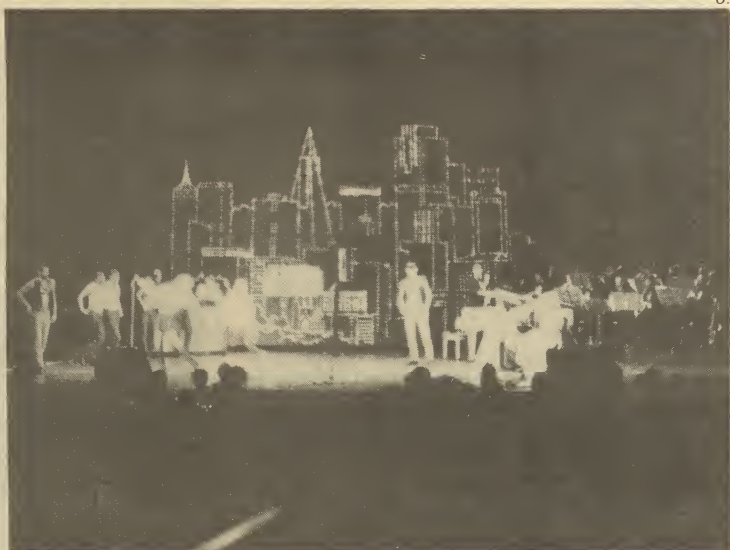
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1. Hayward thrills the crowd with a spirited pom-pom routine. (Photo: Robert Pruzan) % 2. Atlas Savings & Loan chairman John Schmidt accepts a business award from presenter Charlotte Coleman. MC's Rikki Streicher and Hector Caceres look on. (Photo: Rink) % 3. '82 Gay Parade awardees: Gay Olympics Flag Corps and Marching Athletes, S.F. NOW and Ladies Against Women, S.F. Gay Freedom Day Marching Band & Twirling Corps (Photo: Rink) % 4. Meg Christian was part of the evening's entertainment (Photo: Rink)

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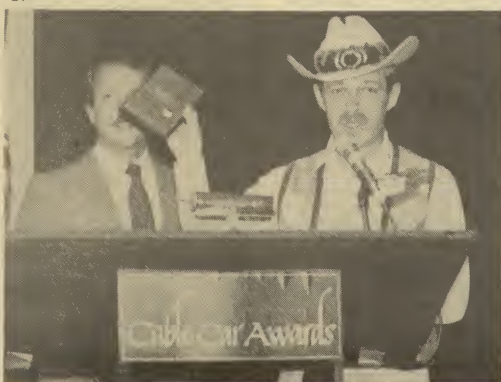


6.

7.



8.



5. Presenters Supervisor Richard Hongisto and Democratic activist Ann Daley present Bay Area Reporter's George Mendenhall with Outstanding Journalist award. (Photo: Rink) % 6. The evening's final entertainment: The Tap Troupe, with the Foster-Hayden Orchestra. The dancers represented various city types from drag queens to Castro cruisers. (Photo: Rink) % 7. Cris Williamson, Cable Car nominee, was part of the evening's entertainment (Photo: Rink) % 8. Bob Shore of the Starlight Room accepts an award he shared with Headlines for Outstanding Contribution by a Business. (Photo: Rink).

## CABLE CAR '83



## Operation Concern is Moving to Market St.



Operation Concern's new home on upper Market Street — closer to the community's center. (Photo: Rink)

by Wayne April

Operation Concern, the outpatient mental health counseling service, has signed a lease on new quarters close to the Castro, according to director Carole Migden. The new building at 1855 Market Street will give the counseling center over twice the space they currently occupy at 2483 Clay Street.

It's also "a lot more elegant," said Migden, and will allow room for seminars and group meetings.

Migden said the center has raised \$50,000 for renovations to the existing building, which formerly housed an antique shop in the storefront area. "A private foundation in Southern California donated \$25,000," said Migden, "but I'm not at liberty to say who it is yet. The rest came from a number of other sources. We'll use the money to con-

struct individual and group rooms for counseling."

There is currently no money for furnishings, but Migden said she hopes the community will rally to the cause after the renovations are complete.

Renovations should begin by the middle of February, and Migden said she hopes the center will be moved in by the middle of April.

The new offices are located between The Joy of Recycling, a second-hand shop, and Empire Grocery & Liquor, which sit catercorner across Market from Uncle Gaylord's ice cream.

Operation Concern began in 1974 as a service to Lesbians, Gay men, and their families. It is funded primarily by the City and County of S.F., the Commission on Aging, the S.F. Foundation, and United Way. ■

## Nancy Reagan Not Fazed by Gay Friends or Scandal

In a *Washington Post* report on Nancy Reagan's White House first two years, we are given a glimpse of how the First Lady views the Gay life and how she responds to scandal.

The article notes that Nancy Reagan "still counts among her confidantes decorator Ted Graber." Graber has been described by administration aides as a powerful White House force. Powerful enough to "remove paintings and decorative objects from various White House offices for use in the family quarters." And in status-conscious Washington the loss or gain of decorative trappings is power on trial. What is even more revealing is that Nancy had Graber stay at the White House. "Graber brought his live-in friend, Archie Case, to stay overnight at the White House" for Nancy's 60th birthday party. "Live-in friend" sounds a lot like "domestic partner" which sounds a lot like "Gay lover."

The Alfred Bloomingdales were long-time friends of the Ronald Reagans. Just before his death last

summer, his mistress of 12 years filed a \$10 million palimony suit. Vicki Morgan, 29, revealed the steamy and seamy details of their sexual liaison including "whippings and all." Morgan said Bloomingdale promised her \$10,000 a month for two years, plus half his interest in the Show Biz Pizza chain. While parts of the suit have been thrown out of court, Morgan can still sue, a judge ruled only last week, to assert certain claims. Morgan said her services were more than just sexual. She indicated she had treated the department store heir for a "Marquis de Sade complex."

Widow Betsy Bloomingdale reported in the *Post* article, "Not only did she (Nancy) hold my hand all the way through the illness, but she even went to see him in the hospital. And she was most supportive through the other problem."

Nancy Reagan's sense of friendship seems a far cry from their born-again Christian predecessors. ■



## Tour de Force

presents

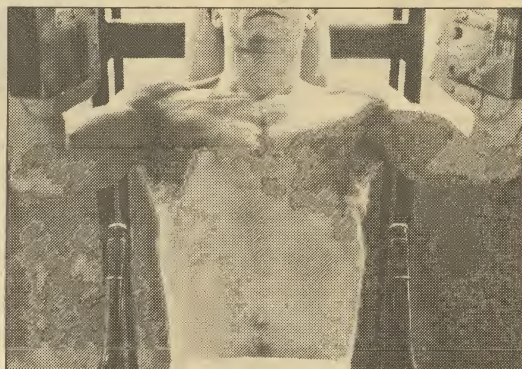
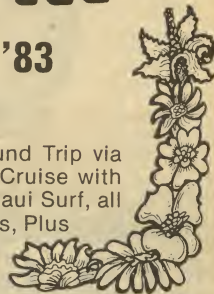
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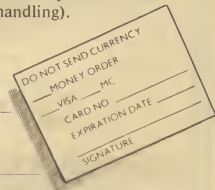
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VOL. XIII NO. 6 FEBRUARY 10, 1983

NEXT ISSUE OUT: FEB. 17

NEXT DEADLINE: FEB. 11

## VIEWPOINT

## LETTERS

### The Way It Was, and Wasn't

One of the comic developments in the current tap dance on the Mayor's head had been the "revisionist" tendencies of some of our brethren.

Put in academic terms, it has been an attempt to re-write history to suit present ideologies (a tactic we commonly criticize totalitarian regimes for — if nothing else, we like to think them susceptible of such truth treachery). In garden variety terms it's a case of saying this is the way it was when it was never that way at all.

Out of the progressive chorus we are beginning to hear snippets of song — that they have never been in support of Dianne Feinstein from the beginning. (That "beginning" is their beginning here, not Dianne's because she's been around a whole lot longer.) The remark may fit a Republican's appraisal of Dianne, but it's forked tongue if coming from any of the three Gay Demo club members.

The Gay community's relationship with Dianne Feinstein has always been uneasy. There has always been a class difference between her constituency and the unemployed and marginally employed. She has always been a moderate (to the right of center) Democrat. Yet on such things as civil rights and broadening the political base, she carries a liberal ID card. She has always been perceived as a moralist — and brothels, bath houses and porno shops turn her blood very, very blue. Also over the years she developed a reputation of changeability. On many issues she has tended to react rather than pathfind. (Gun control was not one of those wishy-washy responses — and look where that one has gotten her.)

In 1978 after the dual assassinations, the new Mayor's reputation and relations with the rank and file Gay community were at a high. Lesbians were jubilant and expected great things. In the 1979 mayoral elections enough Gays voted for favorite son David Scott to force a December run-off. Within hours the Mayor was on the phone lining up Gay and Lesbian backing. The Gay Democratic clubs pulled out all the plugs to endorse, finance, booster, and to display their newly found love of Dianne Feinstein.

At a memorable Harvey Milk Club meeting, she apologized for past sins of commission and omission. At a Tavern Guild meeting (on the anniversary of the assassinations) she called on that blousy crowd to pray with her.

Other Revisionists — who are now on the warpath and in what seems to be a forlorn attempt to cover their tracks — are now saying it was otherwise. They say they only supported Dianne in '79 because Quentin Kopp was worse — and it was to keep Kopp out of office that they nudged Dianne in.

With her run-off victory, relations between the community and the Mayor couldn't have been cosier. David Scott went up to the PUC. Jo Daly nestled in on the Police Commission.

But all the while a time bomb was ticking away in the editorial offices at CBS News, New York. For months a certain segment of the Gay community pulled all the plugs to endorse, booster, display, to tattle to, for a brash young TV reporter and his aging paramour. Not a few saw it as their abrupt boost into national celebrityship. I instead of a whitewash, CBS's George and Grace came up with a permanent ring around the collar. Dianne Feinstein was tarred as little more than a minion of Gay activists.

And Dianne Feinstein took a long walk and put a lot of space between herself and the crowd the nation was told she was locked in bondage with. Our community went the other way, railing at CBS News, having them cited for sloppiness. But not one of the perpetrators who were going to get so much mileage ever rose to accept the responsibility of their media sell-out.

And I think if one sifts through the records, one might be surprised to find that those who profess their hatred of Dianne Feinstein these days were the very ones who most played footsie with George Crile and Grace Dykehouse.

To those who have arrived here within the past two years much is to be forgiven. How were they to know? To a few old-timers, you can change the script, but you can't change the way it was and the way the parts were played.

Paul Lorch

### LETTERS TO OPEN FORUM

\* All letters to Open Forum must be hand signed, legible, and contain a return address. We feel correspondents should display a courage with their convictions and not hide behind a "name withheld." Only in the most unusual circumstances will we oblige with an unverifiable letter (where we feel the author is endangering his life or privacy if his name were printed).

We reserve the right to remove salacious or libelous content in any letter. In addition, if a letter is too long, to cut it down. Hence, a shorter letter has a better chance of appearing than a longer one.

We try to include as many letters as possible and also reserve the right to comment on those we print. However, we do not guarantee a letter will be printed.

Paul Lorch

### ABUSE AT PORN PENS

\* I frequently go to gay and non-gay porno stores to purchase porno materials as well as watch the 25-cent porno films in the back room machines. However, I have a complaint about some of the employees ("bouncers") of two particular porno stores located on Turk St.; one near Taylor St, the other near Mason St., in the Tenderloin. Several times I have witnessed how the "bouncers" at these porno stores take their jobs so seriously as to become obnoxious, antagonistic, and very rude towards the customers who go there to spend money and check out the action. I can understand that these are businesses; but the abusive and arrogant attitude of their "bouncers" is most counterproductive, alienating, and a total hindrance to the purpose of profit-making.

Upon entering the back rooms of the two porno stores, one is immediately confronted with a hostile "bouncer" to whom you must show lots of spending quarters or else you are told to "get the fuck out of there in a hurry." One feels as though these places are more like prisons run by a bunch of sadistic goons. At one time I witnessed how one of the "bouncers" forcibly and violently ejected a well-behaved man whom I knew had spent some quarters in the machines. It was obvious that the man had run out of money. The "bouncer," feeling that the man no longer served any purpose by remaining there, became foul-mouthed, abusive, and gave him the "bum's rush." I ask: "Is this any way to run a business?"

On a more positive note, I should mention that I regularly patronize the gay porno stores on Polk St. I have been perfectly satisfied with the excellent service and polite treatment by their employees. From now on, I will spend my money in the Polk St. stores. I urge gays to patronize gay porno stores that know how to deal with their customers. And to stay away from those places where one is made to feel like a piece of shit instead of a customer.

Larry Hayes  
San Francisco

### A CLEAN CAUCUS ELECTION

\* Recently, you ran a story by Margaret Frost about the Gay and Lesbian Caucus at the Democratic State Convention. The story described the election for female co-chair of the caucus, which Carole Migden carried by one vote over Jo Kuney, and contained comments that the election may not have been run cleanly.

As a member of that caucus and an elected official, I was asked to assist in the distribution, collection, and counting of the ballots for caucus offices. Delegates were separated in the front of the hall (all delegates wore identifying badges), and ballots were distributed and collected from each delegate.

Each ballot was read aloud to two tabulators, and the totals cross-checked following the count. In the case

of the Migden-Kuney race, with a one-vote margin, the ballots were recounted to assure the tabulations were correct.

In short, my experience with the elections was that they were cleanly run. I do not fully understand the differences within the San Francisco gay political world, but it is unfortunate that this process is being used to divide members of the caucus.

We ought to be organizing around the pressing needs of the community state-wide, and working to establish a sound presence with legislators and party leaders. If there are caucus members unsatisfied with the election outcome, the message is to organize better for the next time around.

John Laird  
City Councilmember  
Santa Cruz, CA

### READER ANGER

\* Every time I read something by Thomas Edwards, I have a fantasy about being principal speaker at a ROAST in his honor.

Tom Youngblood  
San Francisco

### QUICHE

\* In Friday's (Jan. 28, 1983) edition of the *Chronicle*, I read with interest an article concerning Phyllis Schlafly's obnoxious gift of quiche bearing her assertion that "Real Men Don't Draft Women, a take-off on the book *Real Men Don't Eat Quiche*, to 50 or so Congressional members who favor passage of the Equal Rights Amendment.

I believe the "real men" whom Mrs. Schlafly heralds as such are the phallic symbols and executors of power for that elite New Right whose champion studs would readily amend her words to "Real Men Don't Draft Women — They Eat Them." Being somewhat familiar with and amused by Schlafly's naive notions about sex (I'm sure oral sex is not on the menu), I think Mr. Schlafly should feed his little woman to the lions or sell her into slavery to one of those "real men" whose palate is so conditioned. Or at least gag her with his own power of attorney.

Brandy Alexander  
San Francisco

### SEX MACHINES BY PHONE

\* In response to Joe C.'s letter criticizing my concern about the proselytizing of phone sex: 1. The fact that a blind and capable man created this service has nothing to do with the fact that it is exploitive. 2. To refer to phone sex as an "alternative to anonymous sex" is ridiculous. The lack of physical presence of one partner makes sex of this nature impersonal in ANY sense of the word. 3. The "bonding" that occurs is merely psychological. Sex acts require physical contact, by definition. 4. Joe seems to have entirely missed my point; that the mass marketing of phone sex is a serious symptom of the dehumanization of society in general (and of the gay community in particular).

As I said, nobody has the right to dictate morals concerning sexual activity. And I am pleased that Joe C. (anonymous) finds such fulfillment with his telephone. However, in a city already brimming over with gay men from all over the world, many of whom know little or nothing about the subtleties of relating as total human beings, rather than sex-machines, we would be well-advised to beware of businesses that offer an even more distant means of associating than those already available.

Thomas Smith  
San Francisco

# B.A.R.

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# LETTERS

## MORE BESTS

\* As long as you're printing the "BEST" letters, here are mine:

Bartender of the Year: David Stoll, SF Eagle; Disco of the Year: I-BEAM; Best Bar Parties: Filmer Inn; Best Columnist: Mister Marcus; Personality of the Year: Sweet Lips; Best Bar: The BRIG; and last but not least, Best Newspaper: Bay Area Reporter!

**James Turquett**  
Best Voter of the Year  
San Francisco

## COOPERATE

\* I am sick and tired of reading the various Gay newspapers and finding articles concerned with the constant bickering between Gay leaders and Gay organizations. The civil rights of Gay men and Lesbians will not be achieved if the Gay community continues to be split over petty issues.

The separatism that exists within the Gay community is often due to the diversity of Gay people. Such diversity should be respected, not attacked. When it comes to issues dealing with the social and political advancement of Gay men and Lesbians, we must put our differences aside.

The issues of the Mayor's recall should be put to rest on one concern, the "Live-In Lovers Bill." The Mayor is scheduled to consider a revised edition. If she should agree with it, then she will be happy to sign it into city law. If the Mayor should fail to reconsider or pass a revised edition of the live-in bill, she will hear from the Gay and Lesbian community at the polls.

We should only be concerned with the interest of our community and not the interest of a small band of prog-gun fanatics. Surely, if a recall was justified, the Gay and Lesbian community would have done so long ago, and with much more than 35,000 signatures.

I resent the fact of having to pay \$400,000 dollars in taxes for a special election, especially in view of the fact that the Mayor can still sign effective legislation to advance Gays and Lesbians before she is due for re-election. All of the bickering and fighting that is going on between Gay leaders and organizations should be put into positive energy. Such energy that will put pressure on the Mayor and her administration to sign the legislation initiated by Mr. Britt, will bring about a cooperative effort among our community to remain united and strong.

**Pete de George**  
Marin County

## RINGOLD TALE

\* I read recently in your paper a letter from a San Francisco police officer concerning his actions in an arrest on infamous Ringold Street. I was arrested there this week, so perhaps you will publicize this letter.

At 1:00a.m. Tuesday, Jan. 25, walking home along Ninth Street, I crossed Ringold and noticed excessive steam billowing from the windows and roof of a building midway down the block. Curious, I walked down Ringold, viewed the situation for a few minutes, then continued on my way. However, second thoughts motivated me to return to Ninth and Ringold and, as the steam appeared more extreme, I decided to notify the police or the fire department. Just as I had this thought, a police van came up Ringold, stopped at the building, and an officer checked the building. This took a few minutes, and as I watched, I walked about fifteen feet down Ringold.

The officer returned to the van, and when the van came abreast of me, it stopped and female Officer Spillane (#2195) snarled, "Don't you have anyplace to go?" The driver, male Officer Cesari (#2129), immediately jumped out of the van, shouting, "Hold it right there, bubblehead." When I asked why he was stopping me, he double-talked about people calling in reporting "me and my buddies congregating" and that he was "only doing normal police work." By this time, I was the only person on the street, other than one or two guys in their cars and maybe one or two at the corner of Tenth and Ringold.

I told the officers that I had been on my way home, noticed the steam, was about to call the police when they arrived, and was watching out of curiosity, and that they had no reason to detain me. Meanwhile, female Officer Spillane had radioed in my name, and much to my amazement the computer belched out a warrant for my arrest for a traffic violation of over a year ago, for which I had duly appeared in court and paid my fine.

So it was on with the handcuffs, into the van, and down to Southern Station for a further computer check, as I had strongly protested that there was a computer error. At the station, I had the "pleasure" of watching San Francisco's finest at work and play, which mainly involved racial jokes and slurs. The further computer check insisted on a warrant for me, so I was taken upstairs and booked. I commented to female Officer Spillane that regardless of the computer error, she had no valid reason to stop me in the first place and that the primary reason why I was now going to spend a night in jail was her homophobia, to which she snarled, "If you don't like it here, go back to Ohio." Who appointed her un-Welcome Wagon Lady? And why doesn't she just slither back under the rock from which she slithered?

So I spent the night in jail and was taken to court in the morning, where, indeed, it became clear that there had been an error. I was dismissed with nary a hint of apology for the malfunction in the system from good old Judge Moscone, a supposedly functioning member

of the system. Indidentally, this is the second time I have spent a night in jail because of computer error, a fact which should give us pause as we headlong it into the computer age. Fairness compels me to reveal that a computer error in my favor lessened the severity of a subsequent traffic violation. Therefore, I chose not to file a complaint regarding the recent error, as I figure things have sort of balanced themselves out.

Now some ten and a few years ago, I studied law, obtained my degree, and taught law for four years. Becoming disenchanted with the insensitivity of our legal system, I eschewed the law and have devoted my time to artistic and theatrical pursuits, among other things. The basic idea I communicated in all the courses I taught is that our system of law should create a more tolerant, accommodating, and accepting society. Of course, no system of law can rise above those who administer and enforce the laws.

My disenchantment with the law, though real, was mostly theoretical, as I had not personally suffered at the hands of the law other than in the general sense that we all do by being alive in this day and age — until I came to San Francisco. In June of 1978, several hours after working at the polls the election day that the Briggs amendment was defeated, I was unexpectedly pulled from my car parked on Ringold Street by two police officers, accused of being drunk, though I had only had three drinks in three hours, taken downtown where I was stripped naked, all one hundred and twenty-five pounds of me, and savagely beaten by five or six sheriff's deputies.

Several months later, while driving my car at midnight on the Embarcadero highway, mine being the only car on the road, I was suddenly tailed by a car which came out of nowhere, forcing me to increase my speed, whereupon the car quickly pulled along my left side, revealing the grinning, beefy face of a policeman who growled, "Where's the fire?" pulled me over and gave me a ticket for speeding. Numerous times since I have been stopped by the police for no apparent reason, insulted, called "scum," told that I was disgusting, that I was not fit to live, etc., etc., etc.

What is the purpose of this rambling, you might wonder, if you are still bearing with me? Well, simply put, I am not going to let any of it get me down. I have an ideal of what life can be. None of these incidents, nor the hundreds, no, millions and more incidents of racism, homophobia, insecurity, or whatever which occur here and throughout the world are going to deter me from striving for this ideal.

**Hans**  
San Francisco

## REMOVE FROM THE SHELF

\* Enough public outcry has been aired on the pros and cons regarding Mayor Feinstein's recall. However, my logic pertaining to this issue is as simple as "Simon says."

When a manufacturer's product is proven to be defective and harmful to the consumer, that product is recalled immediately and removed from the public marketplace.

On that same wavelength, Feinstein has proven to be a harmful and detrimental product to the public at large and therefore should be recalled and removed by the voters, with no holds barred!

**Ed Dollak**  
San Francisco

## A COMPARISON

\* Several conservative San Francisco organizations received the endorsements of the San Francisco Chronicle, the Examiner, the Chamber of Commerce, and the tacit approval of the Mayor's office in the special election of August 1980. That special election asked for a return to election at large and a recall of all eleven supervisors. The election was forced onto the ballot three months before a scheduled November election.

The eleven men and women supervisors had not broken any laws, nor had anyone suggested they had. Why should they not have been allowed the simple dignity of finishing their terms of office. These people were not allowed this bit of common decency.

Did the recently righteous conservatives or the now indignant Mayor's office show that they cared that the city taxpayers would have to spend several hundreds of thousands of dollars only three months before a scheduled election? Did the San Francisco conservatives care that the city's electoral process would be thrown into an upheaval. Did the Chamber of Commerce, the Chronicle, or the Mayor's office express any deep concern about the extreme financial and emotional hardship to be placed on the City of San Francisco voters and especially upon the recalled men and women. You're damn right they didn't care; it was their baby!

The issue on the ballot this April is not a vote against gun control. It is not a vote to endorse the White Panthers. It is not, whether or not special elections should be held seven months before an election.

The issue on the ballot is can someone else do a better job than the present mayor? If you think Quentin Kopp, Wendy Nelder, John Molinari, or someone else could do a better job and would make a better mayor for San Francisco, this is your chance to say so.

I happen to believe John Molinari would make a better mayor.

**Dick Roberts**  
San Francisco

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## LETTERS

### KS KILLERS

★ For the past year I have been reading all possible information on AIDS. During this period of time I have been amazed, or more correctly stated shocked, by the methods and actions of the medical community in treating AIDS. Yesterday I read an article in the *Lancet Medical Journal* about AIDS that should be made public immediately.

What the National Cancer Institute and the National Institute of Health are suggesting is that Kaposi's sarcoma is probably a virus and not a cancer. Their reasoning is positive and makes much more sense than the cancer theory.

Let's hope the medical community takes a hard look at this information in dealing with AIDS. For months the leading researchers in the United States and abroad have been questioning the use of chemotherapy in AIDS patients with Kaposi's sarcoma. A leading AIDS doctor in New York said that chemotherapy is killing the patients. Six months ago the National Cancer Institute questioned the use of chemotherapy in immune-suppressed AIDS patients.

With this new information it is hoped that the medical profession will reconsider using chemotherapy in the treating of Kaposi's sarcoma in AIDS patients.

**Name withheld on request  
San Francisco**

### RECALL, NO ANSWER

★ I believe that the use of the recall to replace the regular political process could in fact weaken the entire recall process itself. Nevertheless, the recall election is a reality, and arguments for or against the recall must be based exclusively on the merits of the charges made by the White Panthers.

I happen to agree with those who feel that the constitution guarantees the right of the people to bear arms for self-protection. But regardless of my personal opinion, I must concede that the "right to bear arms" amendment is in fact vague, and therefore subject to other legitimate interpretations. What right do I have to deny Mayor Feinstein her right to hold a different opinion? I do not have that right, nor do the White Panthers, the 35,000 people who signed the petition, nor does anyone else have that right in a free society. This is what the recall election is all about.

The Mayor did not act unilaterally. She presented her views on gun control to the Supervisors. They passed the legislation, and legal remedies were sought in the courts. If the White Panthers followed the rules to obtain 35,000 signatures, so too did the Mayor follow the rules of the City Charter.

The charges made by the White Panthers are baseless, frivolous, and without merit. The recall is unwarranted, unjustified, and unfair.

**William Tocco  
San Francisco**

### HABITAT HOKUM

★ I was reading your February 3, 1983, issue and enjoying it as usual when I came across the article of the four classes offered during the month of February at The Habitat. I was quite interested in the subjects offered so decided to give them a call for details. A man answered the phone, less than cordially (acted like I had nerve in bothering him), and said each Friday subject would be \$60. What gives; are they trying to take advantage of the gay community? Who can afford such prices these days?

Thanks for letting me get this off my chest. I enjoy your paper so much. Keep up the excellent work and the best to you and the staff at the B.A.R.

**Tom Morgan  
San Francisco**

P.S. This is my first "letter to the editor" ever written.

ED. NOTE: Thank you for the alert. We had no idea the lectures were a commercial venture. We were under the impression they were a public service which we were in turn spotlighting. Otherwise the organizers should have made their pitch through advertising. Our apologies if anyone was similarly treated. Yet now we know more about the operation and the community is better served.

P. Lorch

### GOA GOOD RIDDANCE

★ I was sorry to see your article about the collapse of Great Outdoors Adventures (GOA) — not because I am sorry to see GOA go, but because your writer, Wayne April, was glibly enough to believe, and print, Mr. Levy's finger-pointing excuses for its demise.

Plain and simple, the reasons for GOA's failure are due entirely to Aryae Levy, and his greed, misrepresentation, and lack of compassion for the needs and desires of others.

GOA was originally a casual group of gays who enjoyed true "outdoors adventures" such as camping, hiking, rafting, etc. I joined GOA in early 1980, when there were only about 125 members who met in a run-down, but affordable, flat in the Haight, which also served as Mr. Levy's residence. It was a diverse, yet homogeneous group, and it grew rapidly (as an alternative to the bar scene).

Unfortunately, Mr. Levy saw the potential for big profits and went after it. Using GOA proceeds he bought a \$10,000 (in 1980!) van, and relocated to an expensive Victorian on upper Castro Street. In order to "meet expenses" the annual "membership" fees went from \$15 to \$30, then to \$35.

Gradually, the activities switched from low-cost outdoors events to expensive trips to exotic resorts, where the members got no closer to the outdoors than when they were rushed from the chartered bus to the hotel. Members were both disillusioned and priced right out of GOA, leaving only the "well-to-do," who happened to be much older, alone and lonely, and used GOA to attempt to perk up their dull sex lives. (The last event I attended was a weekend trip to a gay Russian River tourist trap. It was raining the whole time, so we were confined indoors. Out of 30-35 in attendance, only three of us were under 30, with the rest in their late 40's and 50's, drunkenly leering, drooling over, and groping at the younger ones. We left in disgust after only 23 hours.)

Adding to the disillusionment was Mr. Levy's misrepresentation. Mr. Levy — even in articles in the B.A.R. — insisted on referring to GOA as an "organization," "group," "club" — never as a BUSINESS designed to make a PROFIT (for Levy!). He persuaded "members" to become "volunteers," working long hours for little or no pay. At one point, he even announced — and advertised — that GOA had applied for "Non-profit" status with the IRS. (He never mentioned that IRS promptly rejected that application.) Members realized that they had been taken, and dropped out in droves.

Well, Justice has prevailed — greed and misrepresentation turns off consumers — a fact Mr. Levy failed to consider while conducting his BUSINESS. Now, hundreds of gays are out of their dues, trip deposits, and struggling gay businesses have another term for GOA — Bad Debt.

**R. C. Bryant  
Ex-member, Ex-GOA  
San Francisco**

### RETURN THE MAYOR TO HER DOMESTIC PARTNERSHIP

★ I think I have some good advice regarding this matter. Everybody take it easy! This advice is especially offered to the editor of your newspaper, Paul Lorch. Please try to realize that there are things that you can change and things that you cannot change. Look for the wisdom to know the difference between the two. I totally disagree with your editorials regarding this matter. Let us not talk in terms of "what if" the recall fails or succeeds. I feel that the terms "what if" and "if only but" should be banished from the English language.

The "experts" have offered many reasons or theories as to what causes homosexuality. Nobody really knows for sure, but I feel I have learned that gay people did not find their ways to the gay lifestyle out of their love for conformity, traditional values and structures, or the status quo. Gay people are extremely independent and individualistic. They pride themselves on coming to their own conclusions and bitterly resent being told what to do. The best way to get a gay person to do something is to convince them it was all their idea in the first place.

To continue to get ourselves embroiled in a discussion as to what may happen is ludicrous. One of the first things one learns, if they have been living here for any amount of time, is that — especially in San Francisco — anything is possible. There are so many variable factors, so many different groups and types of people that attempting to predict the outcome of any situation is next to impossible. Dianne Feinstein could win big and be retained. She could also be a big loser and be tossed out. The election could turn out to be a cliff-hanger. It all depends on how the issue is presented to people and how they see it. People will be voting for or against the mayor for a variety of very different reasons, many of which are politically diametrically opposed to one another.

Let democracy work. Gay people who like Dianne Feinstein — I suggest you go to the polls and vote to retain her. If you can't stand her guts — vote to oust her. And if you have no opinion on the matter — stay home. The issue or question which will be put to you is the following, "Should Dianne Feinstein be retained as mayor of San Francisco?" The issue is not gun control. The issue is not whether the mayor has committed a crime or not. The issue is not the domestic partners ordinance. The question is do you personally wish to see Dianne Feinstein continue on in her capacity as mayor of this city or would you like to retire her to being just plain Mrs. Richard Blum?

On election night, the votes will be counted. If the mayor is retained — so be it. If not — not. Accept whatever the outcome is. If the votes from the "gay" precincts indicate, as I suspect they will, that gay people vote to oust the mayor, she will have to deal with that. We, as a group of people or individually, feel the way we feel and no amount of political intimidation can change that, nor should it.

In the meantime, let us continue about our business and our agendas. Let's not spin our wheels and let each of us conduct ourselves in whatever manner we deem appropriate. Let the chips fall where they may and where they will.

**George Collins  
San Francisco**

ED. NOTE: Thank you for your prolix wisdom lesson. Yet what is your que sera sera ying without my yang. And vice versa.

P. Lorch



# L.A. Police Sex, Spying Scandals Continue

by George Mendenhall

A 16-year veteran of the Hollywood Division police station has been fired for his involvement in a police sex scandal. Sgt. Roger Gibson was the last of 12 officers charged with public sexual activities with alleged prostitutes at a private spa and parking lot known as "The Tree" to officers. All of the charged have either quit the department or been dismissed.

Over the years Hollywood police have arrested countless homosexuals. The techniques have included the subtle use of young plainclothes officers in Gay bars, arresting patrons leaving bars for drunkenness, questioning of citizens appearing to be effeminate, and beating Gay people with clubs during one Gay parade. Outraged Gay activists picketed the Hollywood/Ramparts police station a few years ago.

Gibson was found guilty of lying in police reports in which he indicated that he had no knowledge of his colleagues' sexual hangout. Earlier, Gibson had been identified by the F.B.I. as one officer involved in a Hollywood robbery operation. Officers would rob a store themselves and then issue a false report.

One officer has testified in court that Gibson had performed oral copulation with a woman at the spa when "forced" into it by other officers. The charge is that he later had sex on the side of a nearby mountain.

## INTELLIGENCE SCANDAL

Police Chief Daryl Gates has recommended to the Los Angeles Police Commission that his Intelligence Division be dispersed. The division has received considerable public-

ity lately when it was revealed that an order from a court to destroy 90 boxes of intelligence files was ignored. Officers continued to use the files — and let others use them — at secret storage areas outside of the department.

"This spy unit should not be broken up," L.A. Gay activist Morris Kight told B.A.R. He said the unit now "gives us a chance to know where their spies are. Under Gates' plan, the intelligence officers will be scattered about the city in individual stations. They will then have even greater opportunities for spying on individuals and groups."

During a behind-the-scene witchhunt from 1969 to 1973 this unit formed files on the activities of the L.A. Gay Community Services Center and Gay Liberation Front.

(San Francisco has a police Intelligence Bureau which keeps tabs on local fringe political and religious groups. It also has a task force on street gangs and helps protect dignitaries who visit the city. The unit is closeted away at the Hall of Justice in an office that has nothing but a room number on the door.)

## JUDGE'S CASE DISMISSED

Chief Gates' charges again-

st a Compton judge who allegedly sabotaged an undercover investigation of male prostitution in Hollywood have been dropped. The state Commission on Judicial Performance, meeting in San Francisco, said the charges were "unfounded and without merit."

Superior Court Judge Harold Shabo had claimed that he was approached by a young male on Hollywood's Melrose Avenue. The man asked Shabo to tell other males in the area that the police were operating there. The judge contends that he refused, but the man insisted so he agreed. Shabo claimed that he only agreed to in order to get rid of the intruder. The young man was a police plainclothesman who filed a complaint against the judge.

## POLICE BRUTALITY

Meanwhile, Joel Wachs, L.A. City Council President, has warned the police department that the council will be asking "a lot more questions" about police conduct. Councilman Robert Farrell has demanded an investigation of police practices after the city recently settled out of court numerous police brutality lawsuits brought by citizens.

## New Jewish Congregation Forms

### MCC Serves as Temporary Temple

San Francisco has a new congregation with a focus on serving Jewish Gays and Lesbians. After gathering informally on a regular basis since September, nearly forty participants in Congregation Ahavat Shalom ("The Love of Peace") met recently to incorporate and establish a permanent synagogue. Elected as interim co-convenors to serve until a general congregational election in March are Steven Fritsch Rudser and Rob Montague.

Since its formation, Congrega-

tion Ahavat Shalom has conducted regular Sabbath evening services, as well as special services and social events commemorating the Jewish holidays. Additional activities of the fledgling synagogue include an "Introduction to Judaism" class, a bimonthly newsletter, and a newly established social action committee.

Congregation Ahavat Shalom will welcome interested individuals as charter members through April 1 (membership dues requirements will increase after that date). The

by-laws of the congregation explicitly affirm that women and disabled individuals, who on occasion have been excluded from full participation in some synagogues, are entitled to all privileges and responsibilities of membership, including conducting services and being called to the Torah. The congregation invites all members of the community to worship at Friday evening services at 8:15 p.m., at Metropolitan Community Church, 150 Eureka Street. (Sign language interpretation is provided one Friday each month.)

More information about Congregation Ahavat Shalom is available by writing P.O. Box 421464, San Francisco, CA 94142, or calling (415) 621-1020 (voice or TTY).



The Bay Area's second Gay Jewish congregation, Ahavat Shalom, has formed and meets at MCC on Eureka. Charter members gather around interim co-convenors Steven Fritsch Rudser and Rob Montague (seated).

## Gay Jews Reach Out

Last October Sha'ar Zahav, the Bureau of Jewish Education, and Jewish Family and Children's Services sponsored a conference, "Dialogue for Understanding: Gay and Lesbian Jews and the Jewish Service Community."

This Monday members of

the congregations Sha'ar Zahav and Ahavat will meet with representatives of diverse Jewish organizations to establish the committee, which will be charged to promote greater Gay participation in the Jewish community, increase awareness of Gay Jews' concerns, and will exist

as a forum for addressing issues involving Gay and non-Gay Jews.

## Alice Looks at Abortion

Alice B. Toklas general meeting Monday, February 14, 7:30 p.m., Swedish American Hall, 2174 Market. The speakers, who have not been announced, will treat Abortion Rights.



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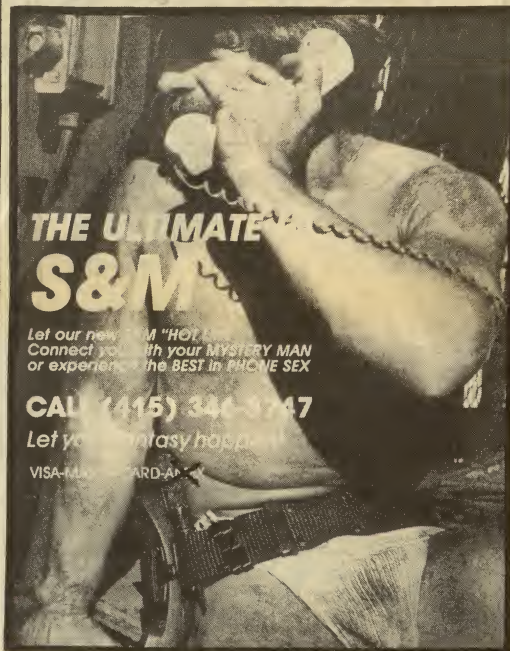
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## NGTF Issues Gay Blood Policy

The National Gay Task Force and more than 50 other organizations and representatives from the Gay community nation-wide held a press conference last week on national blood donor policy and Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome (AIDS). The statement was presented by Virginia M. Apuzzo, Executive Director of NGTF, the largest Gay civil rights and public education organization in the country.

Joining Apuzzo in answering questions during the press conference were Roger Enlow, M.D., a clinical investigator and research immunologist, and a representative of the American Association of Physicians for Human Rights, whose work focuses on AIDS; Ron Vachon, Executive Director of the National Gay Health Education Foundation, Inc.; and Larry Kramer, a member of the Board of Directors of the Gay Men's Health Crisis, a New York City organization which educates the public about AIDS, provides services for AIDS victims, and funds research on the disease.



Press conference speakers (from left): Larry Kramer, co-founder Gay Men's Health Crisis; Virginia Apuzzo, NGTF Executive Director; Dr. Roger Enlow, a research immunologist; and Ron Vachon, Executive Director, National Gay Health Education Foundation.

### THE GAY COMMUNITY'S STATEMENT

Apuzzo began, "In response to recent statements by the National Hemophilia Foundation, we have asked you all together to hear the Gay community's concern and response in the hopes that we will together fight the national health emergency called Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome (AIDS).

"On behalf of Gay men and Lesbians across the United States, we join the National Hemophilia Foundation (NHF) and others in expressing our deep concern that a national blood program be formulated which safeguards the health of all Americans.

"As the NHF noted, 'The issues surrounding AIDS remain complex; there are no simple answers.' Unfortunately, the NHF wasn't successful in following its own advice. As indicated by recent surveys and both published and unpublished data, there are no simple answers regarding AIDS and our national blood donor program.

"The concern of the NHF has been the safety of the blood product upon which the survival of hemophiliacs is based. But to single out any segment of our society as the source of unsafe blood is divisive and dangerous. Unfortunately, as it exists today, we are all potential victims of our present national blood program.

"Therefore, we urge:

1. Every effort be made by the blood industry to test blood and blood products for agents which indicate a current of past infection, e.g. Hepatitis B, which may also indicate a high risk for AIDS.
2. Funds be made immediately available to government agencies, medical institutions, and voluntary community groups, to research the cause(s), effects, and cure of AIDS — which remain unknown — as well as to offer patient services to those suffering from this disorder.
3. All individual blood donors screen themselves, recognizing that in giving the 'gift of life,' there is the responsibility to give the safest gift possible.
4. The medical and scientific community acknowledge what has been known for many years: that the direct or indirect questioning of donors is an inadequate safeguard to the quality of blood; moreover, a policy to exclude any group from blood donation, whether mandated or voluntary, would be both ineffective and inappropriate.

"Above all," concluded the popular Apuzzo, "it is incumbent upon the blood industry and the government agencies that regulate blood donor policy to refrain from suggestion or implementation of a blood donor screening program which, by whatever means or under whatever name, amounts to a political solution to a medical problem. Pitting victim against victim will serve only to divert attention from the vital medical and ethical concerns that lie at the heart of this health crisis."

## Another Immigration Victory

National Gay Rights Advocates has won a \$7,500 settlement against the Immigration and Naturalization Service. Jamie Chavez, represented by NGRA, filed suit against the INS, Mexicana and Braniff Airlines, and Burns Security Service for false imprisonment in 1980. Mr. Chavez was stopped at the San Francisco International Airport, strip-searched, and detained because of "suspected homosexuality" on a visit to the United States from Mexico.

Leonard Graff, Legal Director of NGRA, said: "The purpose of this suit was to de-

ter border guards and airline employees from harassing arriving visitors." In addition to the money settlement, the government must notify INS agents not to interfere with



NGRA's Legal Director Leonard Graff (Photo: Rink)

the arrival of Gay visitors.

"This victory is an important aspect of our immigration strategy," said Jean O'Leary, Executive Director of NGRA. "Our recent win against the INS, in the Carl Hill case, only applied to actions of the government. The effect of this settlement is to put private corporations on notice that we also will not tolerate their improper treatment of Lesbian and Gay tourists."

NGRA was assisted in this case by William Dillingham, Esq. of Pillsbury, Madison and Sutro, a prestigious San Francisco law firm.



# Stonewall Demos Call for Recall

by Margaret Frost

Stonewall Gay Democratic Club became the first Gay club to support the recall of Mayor Dianne Feinstein last Monday with a vote of 41-3 (with 1 abstention).



Stonewall club this week votes for recall by a wide margin. (Photo: Rink)

President Paul Boneberg presented a unanimous resolution from the Executive Board to that effect, commenting, "Dianne Feinstein is not a friend of the Lesbian/Gay community, and she is not a progressive. If she wins largely in April, it will preempt opposition to her in November. We are not just recalling this mayor, we are recalling the interests and issues she represents.

"We must do what we can to stop this city's being sterilized by the rich and corporate interests," he concluded; "and the leader of that movement today is Dianne Feinstein."

Nattily attired in a white blouse with bow, Sister Boom Boom delivered a tongue-in-cheek "defense" of Feinstein. "I know Dianne has great love for the homeless," he commented, "because she has made so many more with her housing policies. I don't think we should forget the good Dianne has done for us — we should recall every bit of it."



Judge Herb Donaldson swears in the '83 Stonewall executives. (Photo: Rink)

## The David Lamble Talk Show

Saturday night live, The David Lamble Talk Show will remember BAGL. That's BAGL, not bagel, meaning Bay Area Gay Liberation. BAGL was the mid-70's Gay movement group (San Francisco-based, of course) which set the style for the politics around fighting Anita Bryant, the anti-Gay school teacher Briggs Initiative, and the early campaigns of Harvey Milk. David's guests will be former BAGL members. We hope especially that some of the hundreds of Gay men who passed through BAGL during its two-year history will call the show at 928-0104. That's the BAGL reunion show Saturday night from 7:05 to 10 p.m. on KGO-FM (FM 104).

Sunday night from 7:05 to 9 p.m. marks the return of

NAMBLA (North American Man/Boy Love Association) to the David Lamble Talk Show. Monday's *Examiner* featured a column by Kevin Starr, in which he quotes a woman voter as saying that she planned to vote against Mayor Feinstein in the recall election because she was "offended by certain fringe elements of the Gay community," i.e. "a man representing an organization that seeks to lower the age of consent" she heard on a certain radio talk show. Tune in Sunday night to that certain radio talk show on KGO-FM (FM 104).

From 9:05 to 10 p.m. Sunday night David's guest will be Gay blues/folk singer Blackberri, who will play and discuss his career and his latest record. Blackberri is especially well-known for his song "Eat the Rich."

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## RC Gay Task Force Report

(Continued from Page 1)

in a file cabinet and silenced its contents with a broad re-statement of the church's well-known position that it is all right to be a homosexual as long as you don't do it.

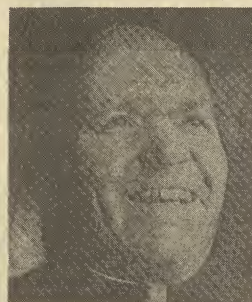
The task force startled church authorities by brazenly copyrighting its report and distributing 3,000 copies across the country. Quinn, who it is widely believed would like to be a cardinal, has attempted to squelch the report because it embarrasses him in Rome. However, a full page article on the controversy surfaced in *TIME* magazine last October. Although the task force has repeatedly said that it is reporting on its own and is not speaking for the church, Quinn was perceived by some to be the "liberal" archbishop in San Francisco who issued the report.

Quinn expressed his most recent views of same-sex relations in his letter to Mayor Dianne Feinstein during the December furor over "domestic partners" legislation. He wrote, "To reduce the sacred covenant of marriage and family, by inference or analogy, to a domestic partnership is offensive to reasonable persons and injurious to our legal, cultural, moral, and societal heritage. Injury to individual rights should be redressed by means other than the radical repudiation of fundamental values and institutions which have profound significance for a present and a future viable and well-ordered society." Quinn was addressing the Britt legislation wherein the phrase "domestic partners" would be inserted wherever the word "marriage" appeared in city codes, charter, records, etc.

### WHERE NOW?

Relatively few people have actually read the Task Force on Gay/

Lesbian Issues report because of its length — 150 pages with 54 recommendations. It includes such specifics as a call for the church to aggressively educate in the Latino community to reduce violence against Gay people by Hispanics. It urges the church to get involved in criminal justice system reforms. One section asks that Catholic lit-



Archdiocese hit-man Rev. Peter Armstrong

erature not infer that anyone who is outside the traditional "family" harms the concept of family.

Kevin Starr, S.F. *Examiner* religion columnist, commented favorably on the report: "In calling for a major rethinking of the theology of human sexuality, the task force has done a service to more than just the Gay/Lesbian community. Whether or not the official church will have the institutional momentum, not to mention the courage, to loosen its grip on the sexual lives of its adherents and to face the truths of human sexuality is, of course, another matter."

Gordon is not optimistic but, at the same time, continues an aggressive campaign to widely circulate the report and debate its contention that the sex in homo-

SEXuality be accepted, "You do not change the church," the local theologian and private counselor stresses. "What we want to do is raise the consciousness about the inadequacy of a given area so a more adequate response is possible."

Relaxed in his spacious flat near Castro and Market Streets, Gordon told *Bay Area Reporter*, "It is not enough to say 'the emperor has no clothes.' Let us weave new garments. We do not want to 'expose' the church but love working within the church."

To the question "If the church will not change, why not leave it?" Gordon replies, "You do not leave the United States because you do not agree with some of its policies. The Republic is still solid. What we are moving toward, with an assistance from this controversy, is a national discussion within the church of values and sexuality. We must help the church to overcome its sex-phobia."

There is speculation that Quinn might move now to disband the task force, declaring that its purposes are in conflict with the church. He could accuse its members of overstepping their bounds by criticizing church policy. However, some contend that this would make martyrs of the task force members and bring additional publicity to "the San Francisco controversy."

One thing is sure: Archbishop Quinn would like to see the issue die — soon. But it appears that it is just beginning. Quinn is expected to give more consideration to a much-delayed theological report on homosexuality being prepared by a priest's senate task force, which is expected this spring. ■

G. Mendenhall

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## American Express Nixes Gay Phone Sex

(Continued from Page 1)

parently was not done. On January 5, 1983, Henmi informed The Connector people that American Express had dropped them. The reason: "in accordance with the terms specified in the last paragraph of our letter of agreement." The termination was immediate.

Hall contacted his attorney, Lee H. Harter, and a meeting was set up January 31 with Henmi and Bruce Stahley, District Sales/Marketing Manager. Both sides agreed that there had been no complaints nor disagreements. But Stahley insisted working with "those people" would not be in the "best interests" or fit the company "image."

Attorney Harter reported Stahley could cite no standards or criteria other than these vague terms. Stahley denied knowledge of other sexually oriented telephone advertisements using the AmEx logo; however, Harter pointed out many such firms.

The Connector's owner, Al Hall, concluded, "Bullshit! This is just pure discrimination against Gays because this man doesn't like homosexuals." A perusal through the yellow pages "massage listings" seems to bear out Hall's assertion that American Express has no "image" problem with heterosexual advertising.

Hall has instructed the corporation's attorney, Harter, to pursue the matter, and a letter has been written to American Express officials in an attempt to get a clear statement of what American Express's formal standards were.

The attorney's letter contained some 15 pages of message and escort ads from the yellow pages, many of which offered payment by American Express. Included were explicit phone sex ads — heterosexual, naturally — from other parts of the nation. As an example, Diana's phone sex ad read: "Call me, and I'll share my most cock-titling, prick-swelling fan-

tasies with you now."

Harter's letter to the corporate executives of American Express in Torrance, California, ended:

"The most disturbing aspect of this discussion arose when Mr. Stahley indicated there were no formal standards of what was and what was not in the best interests of the company, nor were there any criteria in deciding what was a proper 'image.' All of this discussion suggested that without any discernable reason whatsoever, and in a purely arbitrary and capricious fashion, American Express could terminate a merchant

## KS Not Cancer?

Downgrading KS from a sarcoma to a "benign proliferation," makes the continued use of chemotherapeutic drugs nearly impossible to rationalize.

In New York City AIDS patients have banded together as a lobby to make physicians there, and across the country, aware that chemotherapy may not be a prudent course of treatment for KS.

If KS is not a cancer, what

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Theatre Rhinoceros is looking for three dedicated individuals to fill part-time administrative and production positions for 1983, starting March 1. The positions to be filled are: administrative director to manage the administrative and financial activities of the company, a box office manager to supervise ticket sales, and a production manager to supervise and direct the production activities.

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account. Quite frankly, this termination appears to be discriminatory against this Gay-run operation for no other reason than Mr. Stahley's moral judgment on homosexuals.

"Would you please confirm whether this particular termination of service 'which is not compatible with American Express's image' is the corporate policy or just a personal policy of Mr. Stahley's. If you can provide any indication of formal standards promulgated by the company that would show this was not an arbitrary termination, I would appreciate seeing it." ■

P. Lorch

is it? Costa and Rabson suggest that it may be an adult form of infectious mononucleosis. A virus that causes at least one form of "mono," called CMV, is known to take up residence in the same cells that later serve to identify the KS lesions. The NCI researchers ask, "Could a strain of CMV . . . induce a lesion with the appearance of Kaposi's sarcoma?" If the researchers' suspicions are correct, KS lesions could be more easily managed by antiviral drugs — or no treatment at all — than by drugs that are designed to prevent tumor growth. ■

good knowledge of and/or a strong interest in Gay theatre and possess administrative or theatre production experience. Positions are funded from \$300 — \$600 a month, depending on hours and experience. Theatre Rhinoceros is an Equal Opportunity Employer.

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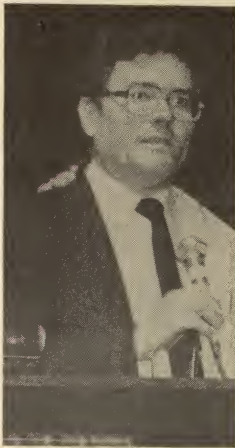


## GUEST COLUMN

### Thinking Through Domestic Partners

by Paul Koutsos, Sociologist

I want to enter an answer to Paul Lorch's editorial published January 27 ("Wedding Bells Are Breaking Up...").



Supervisor Harry Britt likes his Gay "marriage" certificate. (Photo: Rink)

The entire ridiculous maneuvering over a Gay couples bill is merely the result of a community whose pride has outgrown and stunted the current maturation of its collective ego. The infantile result has been an overly-emotional reaction by a noisy minority of Gays who can at all identify with the theoretical issues affected by Feinstein and Britt's responsible actions regarding the bill. The consequence has been to become drawn into a recall controversy instigated by a couple of gun-maul morons, as a means of striking back at a mayor who will not officially condone Gay political assholism.

Lorch's opinion that the "certification ordinance" is discriminatory, elitist, and morally imposing is itself an emotional response to a piece of proposed legislation revolving around a nondistinct and emotionally as well as objectively vague concept: "lovers" or domestic partnership. ANY legislation on this will first need to concretely define that concept. The definition is sure to offend someone somewhere. Britt's definition did not seem to apply too many standards to me at all.

While it is probably true that a Gay marriage facsimile has never been part of any Gay liberation agenda, maybe it is time that we ourselves worked out something which more clearly defines and helps to create our relationships and their consequent responsibilities as well as moral prerequisites.

At the core of the spirit of Gay Liberation is actually the spirit of truth and honesty (to one's self and others). Therein lies the meaning of coming out of the closet. It is from within that spirit that we must ask ourselves whether or not the Gay community itself has evolved any single set of interlocking institutions to uphold, support, and maintain loverships. Have we put anything of substance in place to even facilitate the creation and development (let alone enhancement) of such partnerships? No.

The truth is that Gay coupledom is largely that of a small minority of Gay men. Additionally, where it exists, it is too often shrouded in more

acting than reality. The truth is that many loverships are ending with one or both parties getting "burned" after an average of 2-6 years, if they make it through the first year. The truth is that the only real substance the Gay community has provided are cruisy bars, backrooms, sleaze joints, baths, and a consequent development of new and dreaded communicable diseases.

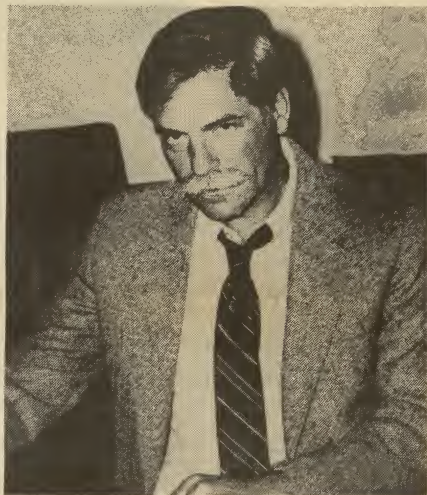
Unlike Lorch would have it then, I feel that not only is it not bad to bring some type of morals into the matter (as he perceives Britt to have done) but at a time when immorality is causing us to die hideously, it is desirable to instill some sense of morality.

In conclusion, the final truth is that the Gay community does not yet deserve a Gay couples bill and will not until it as a whole can develop a more distinct, viable definition of a lovership ideal which

can be emulated by many and which has solid supportive social structures to maintain it.

Asking for a Gay couples bill at this point in our evolution is putting the cart before the horse; asking society to create for us what we have failed to create for ourselves individually and collectively.

In the spirit of Gay Liberation, let us redeclare that only Gay people can liberate Gay people. The time has come for us to behave humanely toward each other with a sense of individual and collective adulthood unmatched by heterosexual society. It would be better to first work on laws which will make Gay couples accountable for their actions towards each other. I personally am tired of being ripped-off ever more severely with each passing flimsy relationship. I want my lover to be responsible for his actions before he gets my fringe benefits. That's why I don't care a fig for or even about this bill. The time has come for us to buy into some form of respectability and NOT to seek payment for that which we didn't earn. It is important to be honest — it's the best road to growth.



Bay Area Reporter editor Paul Lorch doesn't like the new version for a Gay "marriage" certificate. (Photo: Rink)

## GUEST COLUMN

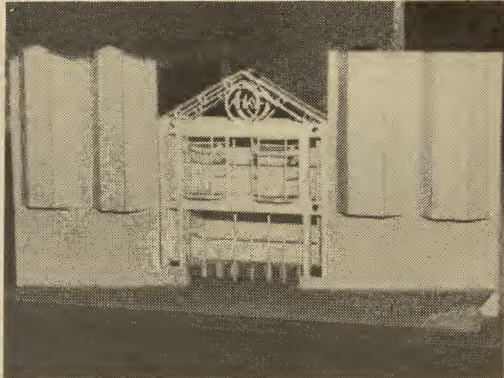
### Architects and Atlas

by Phillip Gordon Gietzen, Architect

I noticed with considerable interest that the story which appeared in the *B.A.R.* about the proposed relocation of Atlas Savings to a building on Castro Street omitted the name of the Architectural firm

Stockholders and customers of Atlas Savings might wish to consider inviting architects within the community to interview and to submit proposals the next time.

I am not at liberty, for pro-



Architect's model of new Atlas S & L on Castro Street (Photo: Rink)

retained to remodel the existing building.

Stockholders and customers take note.

It strikes me as rather queer that the straight President of Atlas Savings, which is, by the admission of the Chairman of the Board, Insurance Broker John Schmidt, "95% Gay," has gone outside the Gay community to retain a straight architect, who is, by the way, now proposing that the existing building be demolished and a new building constructed.

Hiring an architect because he or she is Gay is not a very good way to select an architect. But as far as I can determine Atlas Savings, which is pitching its appeal to the Gay community, did not invite any Gay architects to interview for the job or to submit proposals before the selection of a straight architect was made. Do you ever get the feeling that you are being used?

professional reasons, to comment upon the firm which has been retained by Atlas, but I can say from my own personal knowledge that there are a number of very good architects within the community who are as competent as the architect who has been retained by Atlas.

All I am asking for is an equal chance for those of us within the community to participate in the community of which we are a part.

Whether the existing building is remodeled or replaced it seems to me that it is the obligation of the stockholders and the customers to see to it that Gay men and women are given an equal chance. This means inviting Gay contractors to negotiate bids for the project and insuring that jobs are given to qualified Gay construction men and women.

Come out of the closet, Atlas!



LIBERTY BATHS

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# From Eureka Valley to The Castro: The Transformation of a Neighborhood

by Mike Hippler

Twenty years ago in Washington, D.C., John F. Kennedy entered the last months of his presidency while Martin Luther King led 200,000 civil rights supporters in a march on the Lincoln Memorial. In Santa Monica, California, and in beach towns across America, young men with bleached blond hair rode the wild surf while Annette Funicello look-alikes planned beach parties on the shore. In Omaha, Nebraska, and Sandusky, Ohio, middle-aged women with curlers in their hair watched "Leave It To Beaver" on TV or hummed along with Wayne Newton as he sang "Danke Shoen" on the radio. And in New York City, Bob Dylan preached in Greenwich Village coffee houses that something was blowing in the wind and that the times, they were a-changin'.

In San Francisco, totally unaware that the times would eventually change their neighborhood into the Gay capital of the world, probably unaware that the word "Gay" could mean anything other than "happy" in the first place, and unconcerned with the problems of homosexuals in any case, residents of one small neighborhood centered around two insignificant blocks of Castro Street sent their kids off to the parish school and stopped in at the local bar after work as they had always done and thought they always would do. Eureka Valley was largely an Irish Catholic neighborhood then, and most of its residents were working class folk who lived in run-down, rambling old houses built side by side 70 and 80 years earlier. Most just wanted to get ahead and get along like everyone else in America.

Ernie Asten, the owner of Cliff's Hardware store, grew up in Eureka Valley — his

depressed area, as some claim. "There were never a lot of vacant stores," he says. "It was always pretty stable." People owned their own homes — "although when I grew up there weren't any Victorians in the neighborhood; they were just old houses" — and they kept steady jobs. It was never a fashionable area, but it was never a ghetto either — until it became a sociological one in the 1970's.

Like nearly every other kid in the neighborhood, Asten went to the local parish school — Holy Redeemer on Diamond Street. "We were a swarm of kids then," he recalls. "You would see us everywhere — on the streets, playing ball. Now, however, you never see any. That's the most remarkable change the neighborhood has undergone." There are so few kids left, in fact, that the school Asten attended no longer exists. The church closed it down just three years ago.

community. Nearly everyone was baptized there. Most were married there. When not in the bar, people went to Bingo games at the church, and they were sure to attend Mass several times a week.

Reverend Bill Young, who has been a priest at Holy Redeemer for three and a half years, echoes Sisneros' comments about the role the church used to play but points out that things have changed greatly since then. In the old days the church was usually packed on a Sunday, but now "we are lucky to get 125 people at a Mass," Young says. The number of daily Masses has declined from two to one just since he has been there, and for four weekend Masses approximately only 400 people attend. The membership of the congregation is mostly elderly people, the ones who stayed behind when all their friends and neighbors left for the suburbs. Even the altar boys are now adults. But at least the church is self-supporting, which means that there are still enough people left to keep the place going, and according to Fr. Young, things are beginning to turn back around. A number of young people are appearing in church for the first time in



The landmark Castro Theater opened in 1922. Gay nostalgia has given it new life. (Photo: Rink)

the Missouri Mule on Market Street, the first Gay bar in Eureka Valley. Soon a Gay gift and card shop called Blueboy opened where the Gilded Age is now. Next came the Midnight Sun, the first Gay bar on Castro Street itself, followed by Toad Hall, at the site of today's Phoenix. Asten

visible aspects. Most Gays weren't out of the closet then, and you'd see no holding hands or sunbathing at Hibernia Bank. Things were much more discreet then."

When Gay people began arriving in large numbers, some people got extremely upset, according to Asten. They tried to oppose the transfer of liquor licenses to new Gay owners, and some shop owners wouldn't sell to or wait on Gay people. At the church, there was a great deal of hostility between some of the local priests and the Gays, says Rev. Young. Although much of that hostility remains — some irate residents still oppose Gay businesses, most notably the Jaguar Book Store, and many feel lost and alone, abandoned in an alien culture — for the most part, Gay and straight people have

(Continued on next page)

## From Irish-Catholic Blue Collar to multi-ethnic Pink Flounce.

years, and some of these are the Gay men and women who now live in the area. Although there are no programs reaching out to these Gay residents, "We do have Gay people in every program that we have," says Young.

When did the neighborhood first begin to change so dramatically? According to Mary Moeller, who works at Herth Realty and has lived in the area for 21 years, and whose father used to own Eureka Super Market (which is soon to be replaced by Atlas Savings, a Gay bank) the first dramatic changes occurred in the 1960's when the youth revolution swept America. "That was the dope era," Moeller says, "and there were lots of hippies and Hell's Angels on the street, as well as lots of drug peddling. You'd see young people staggering down the street everywhere you looked." Consequently, lots of families left. Soon Gays, taking advantage of the cheaper real estate there, began to move in. "But they did not push the families out," says Moeller. "They were leaving anyway." Asten agrees and says that it was not a matter of being pushed out for the families — "It was a matter of a getaway. They couldn't wait to buy those tract houses in the suburbs. And as real estate prices later began to rise, they couldn't afford not to move."

Asten first became aware of the Gay migration into the area when he heard friends in high school gossiping about

makes it clear, however, that this movement was "a trickle, not a tidal wave. As the Gays moved in, we became aware of a gradual change. Every now and then you'd see the Cockettes or the Angels of Light running around in full drag, and some people were really taken aback by that. But they were one of the few



Rev. Bill Young, parish priest at Holy Redeemer Church — which has known better and bigger days. (Photo: Rink)



Ernie Asten, native of the Castro neighborhood. (Photo: Rink)

great-grandfather started the business in 1938 — and he remembers the way the area used to be as well as the changes it has undergone. The people he grew up with were the "working, drinking class," he says. He can recall getting up at 6:30 a.m. to start his paper route and passing all the older men on their way to the local bars to get a quick one before work. There were as many bars then as now, Asten says. "That's one thing the Gay people of today have in common with the Irish worker of yesterday — they both like to drink." All the bars have changed names since then, and some have changed location, but that familiar flash of neon still remains.

Although Eureka Valley was a working class place, Asten says that it was never a

Furthermore, as Asten notes, for thirty years Cliff's has thrown a Halloween street party for local kids, but these had to be canceled two years ago when the number of children left to attend failed to justify its continuance, and when so many adults moved onto the street to party that it was no longer a safe place for children.

Louie Sisneros, who owns Louie's Barber Shop across the street from Cliff's, has lived in San Francisco since 1947 and used to own a shop on 18th Street (where Rugby is now) before he bought his present shop four and a half years ago. Although he didn't grow up in the neighborhood or attend Holy Redeemer, he notes that for years the church played the biggest role in the social life of the com-



## From Eureka Valley to The Castro

(Continued from previous page)

learned to get along. As Young says, "We are hoping to build a community where that particular differential is no longer an important factor."

One reason for the increased cooperation is that most remaining residents appreciate the improvements that Gays have made — the way they have fixed up the houses and revitalized the business district. "It has improved 100%," says a long-time employee of the Bank of America. "This neighborhood is better off than it ever was." For businessmen like Asten, who have learned to adjust to the changes, the transformation of the neighborhood has been extremely profitable. "Business has been fantastic," says Asten. "Sales have gone up many times." Another reason, however, that there is little overt hostility between Gay and straight people anymore is that there aren't many straight people left. Of the 50 students who graduated in

Ernie Asten's eighth grade class of 1961, for example, only two or three remain in the neighborhood. The transformation of Eureka Valley into the Castro has been a complete one.

Anyone who has doubts that the character of the neighborhood has changed dramatically over the past twenty years need only take a walk down Castro Street and window shop for a while. There are 85 storefront businesses at ground level on Castro between Market and 19th Streets, with many more upstairs. Of these, only ten have been around for twenty years or more, while seventeen have appeared in the last two years. The businesses which have lasted tend to be the ones that serve the community's needs, not its wants — businesses like banks, grocery stores, pharmacies, and hardware stores — but even they change ownership from time to time. The ones that fade within a year or two are

the boutiques and minor eating establishments. As noted above, the bars have been around since time began, but all have undergone radical changes since the Gay influx into the area.

For the record and for trivia buffs and history fans, the granddaddy of Castro businesses is the Castro Theater, which opened its doors in 1922 and thus just celebrated its 60th anniversary. The Bank of America across the street is the next oldest, dating from 1923, and Star Pharmacy (1924) follows close behind. (The early 20's must have been boom years.) Hibernia opened its Castro branch in 1929, and people have been getting their hair cut at Louie's Barber Shop since 1930, although Ernie himself has been there less than five years. Cliff's Hardware has been a neighborhood institution since 1938, at its present location since 1971, and the Quality Shoe Repair shop dates from 1945. Finally, there are Mueller's Deli, Eureka Super Market, and Valley Pride Market, whose present owners can't remember how long their stores have been open, since they themselves are relative newcomers but who made estimates ranging from thirty to sixty years.

Of course, Eureka Valley is not the only thing that's changed in America over the past twenty years. Annette Funicello now has grown kids and makes peanut butter commercials. The Beaver has gotten fat, Dylan has discovered Jesus, and Wayne Newton, like the rest of us, has gone butch. JFK and Martin Luther King are dead. In other neighborhoods, churches have closed down or expanded, bars have changed hands, and ethnic groups have been displaced. But few places have seen the kind of changes that the Castro has, and none have seen them on such a major scale. Despite these changes, most residents, straight or Gay, feel that the neighborhood is a pretty special place. Perhaps that's because most of the ones who didn't like the changes have left, or because considering the prices they pay to live there, they have to like the place. Whatever the reason, the neighborhood is thriving in a way it never has before. And even opponents of the Jaguar have to be pleased about that.

M. Hippler



The Jaguar Book Store — represents the New Gay-Castro in all its color and rawness. (Photo: Rink)

## Dan White Can Profit From Milk / Moscone Deaths

The murderer of Mayor George Moscone and Supervisor Harvey Milk may write about the incident and profit from its publication. This ruling was made by Superior Judge Stuart Pollak last week. He was responding to a suit filed by attorney John Wahl, representing Milk's former lover Scott Smith. Wahl attempted to set up a trust so that the families of the victims would benefit from any such profits. There is no evidence that White is contemplating

writing about the murders.

Wahl states that there will be a move in the state legislature to make such profit-by-felons impossible. He said the Republican Assembly caucus favors such a law. The attorney has filed a "writ of mandate" attempt to halt the Pollak decision. He has also asked the state Attorney General to get involved in the issue.

"If one can go out and murder two men who were con-

troversial," Wahl told the court, "and then make money off of it, then I'd have to say there is something fatally wrong with our judicial and governmental system."

The suit was filed for Scott Smith, former lover of Milk.

White murdered Milk and Moscone on November 27, 1978. He later received a light sentence, resulting in a riot in the Civic Center by angered citizens. White is due to be released on January 3, 1984. There is speculation that the White family will move to Ireland... that is if the republic would take in a convicted murderer.

the San Francisco delegation at the recent Democratic State Convention in Sacramento. He won the presidential straw poll with 60% of the vote.

Donation for the reception will be \$5. Senator Cranston is expected to attend from 5:00 to 5:30. For more information or to make reservations, please call Steve Walters at 621-4986.

## Toklas Honors Cranston

Senator Alan Cranston, Democratic presidential candidate and Senate Majority Whip, will be honored by Alice B. Toklas Memorial Democratic Club at a reception Friday, February 11, from 4:30 to 6:30 p.m. at 188 Eureka Street near 18th Street, at the home of Steve Walters and Walter Ems.

Senator Cranston, says the

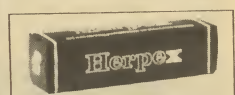
Alice press release, is a leading Human Rights Advocate who has worked hard for women's, minority, and Gay rights. Cranston distinguishes himself as the "Peace Candidate" and has pledged to make the elimination of nuclear arms world-wide a top priority as President. The California senior senator received strong support from

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## POLITICS AND PEOPLE



### Foibles in February

WAYNE FRIDAY

Speaker Willie Brown recently told an interviewer that he "doesn't want to be governor;" one Demo state senator cracked behind Willie's back that "Brown's biggest problem is that he already thinks he is the governor." Senate leader David Roberti and his upper chamber cronies smarting that Governor Deukmejian has more respect for Willie than he does for the Senate boys.



Speaker Willie Brown

The Stonewall Gay Democratic Club Monday night became the first political club in the city to en-

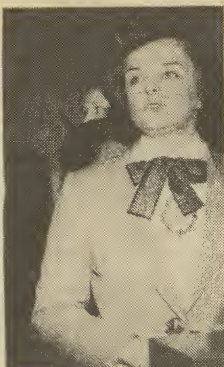
dorse the recall move against Mayor Feinstein. • And the hottest gossip in L.A. recently is the Jerry Brown/Arianna "Ari" Stasinopoulos romance. The former governor took his new companion to Washington and New York with him last week. • Would-be presidential assassin John Hinckley, Jr. says in the March issue of *Penthouse* that he has now become a strong advocate of gun control (ha!).

One of the city's most popular politicians, Mike Hennessey kicks off his re-election campaign for sheriff with a \$100 per person fundraiser reception at the Vorpall Gallery on February 24 (5:30 to 7:30 p.m., 861-6587 for info). • And if you really want to support Dianne Feinstein against the recall, I guess you WILL be among those attending her \$500 a plate dinner at the Hyatt Regency on Valentine's Day (Feb. 14; call Madeline Day at 433-7940 for tickets). • In Tampa, Florida, a Gay activist, John Grannan, is given a good chance of winning a March 1 election to the city council. • Black political leaders in Chicago have criticized Walter Mondale for his announced support of Richard Daley for mayor

of that city in this month's election and have equally blasted Ted Kennedy for his support of Mayor Byrne, complaining that those endorsements give an unfair advantage to the two White candidates over the third, a Black, Democratic Congressman Harold Washington. So what did Alan Cranston do this week? You got it; our favorite candidate for president rushed an endorsement to Harold Washington, Mondale, incidentally, formally becomes a candidate for president on February 21, and one California endorsement he already has is that of Mayor Dianne Feinstein.

Pat Jackson, executive secretary of Local 400 of Service Employees International Union in S.F., announced that the national executive board of the 800,000-member nation-wide union has taken an official position opposing discrimination against Lesbians and Gay men and calling for laws to end such discrimination. The SEIU joined a growing number of major national labor unions in supporting Gay rights legislation. • A number of those attending last week's overflow GGBA dinner still talking about the emotional outburst of another local Gay paper's publisher and the off-color remarks of foodsexual (?) comedian Carol Roberts. The president of one local political club remarked of Roberts' "fisting" jokes that "if a man had said those things, half of the women in the place would have stormed out." Seems to me that if there is any criticism due, it should have been at those in the GGBA who hired Roberts, not the comedian herself. I mean, doesn't everyone know by now what Carol Roberts' rap is?

Steve Walters and Walter Ems will host a Toklas-sponsored reception for presidential candidate Alan Cranston at their home this Friday evening from 4:30 to 6:30 p.m.; admission is \$5; 621-4986 or 931-2189 for info. • We



Dianne has sell out for Valentine's Day dinner — and a vast wasteland. (Photo: Rink)

knew it wouldn't be long before San Francisco's Archbishop-politician John Quinn would pull in the reins on the archdiocese Task Force on Gay/Lesbian issues. Quinn last week blasted the recently released report prepared by the Task Force, criticizing the report's acceptance of the homosexual lifestyle, its denunciation of church doctrine, and many of its more unorthodox recommendations. • And this writer thinks that last week's story in the *Examiner* with the earth-shattering news that San Francisco's 11 supervisors spent nearly \$10,000 last year on long-distance phone calls is really a cheap-shot story. Things must be pretty dull around City Hall if the *Ex's* City Hall reporter can spend hours researching this kind of crap and filling half a page with it. (Although I do wonder what Supervisor Carol Ruth Silver is talking to the anti-Gay mayor of Wellington, New Zealand, about.)

A CBS-conducted poll last week of Democratic National Committee members shows San Francisco as the leading contender to host the party's '84 convention with S.F. as the first choice of 46% of those asked; Chicago followed



The core of the new Republican club: (l. to r.) Dorothy Rosenbaum, Del Dawson, Paul Johnson, and Gary Myerscough. (Photo: Rink)

with 11% and New York with 8%. • And some might have thought the Democrats were already meeting here last week with Jimmy Carter, Walter Mondale, and Mor-



Conway Collis to push Cranston campaign.

ris Udall all in the city the same day. • Despite the continued crying of Tom Bradley and some of his backers, Mervin Field's California Poll released last week said that racism was not the key factor that led to George Deukmejian's upset victory over the L.A. mayor last November. Field said that an organized GOP absentee vote, the presence of a handgun initiative on the ballot, and a lower than usual turnout of minority group voters led to Bradley's defeat. Whites inclined to vote for Deukmejian based on color were probably more than offset by Blacks who voted for Bradley for the same reason, added Field. (Bradley, however, outspent the GOP nominee by more than \$1 million in his losing effort.) • Supervisor John Molinari introduced a measure last week that would allow candidates for city offices in San Francisco to accept \$1,000 campaign contributions instead of the \$750 now allowed. Molinari said the measure was necessary due to the "soaring campaign costs." • Board of Equalization member Conway Collis, a former Cranston fundraiser, will serve as chair of the Cranston for President effort in California.

The PUC does it again — effective April 1, the phone company will charge 15 cents every time you dial information (411) after the first 20 times monthly. Ma Bell convinced the PUC that the charge was needed to discourage those customers who rely heavily on 411 instead of using the phone book. • Maureen O'Connor, a liberal Democratic former councilwoman, seems to be the favorite of most Gay political activists in the upcoming (March 15) mayoral primary in San Diego; San Francisco

political strategist Clint Reilly (Mayor Feinstein's campaign manager) is helping in the O'Connor effort. • The executive committees of the Toklas, Milk, Stonewall, and CRIR clubs and the Bay Area Lawyers for Individual Rights are co-hosting the celebration honoring Municipal Court Judge Herb Donaldson being held at the Supervisors' Chambers in City Hall next Thursday (Feb. 17, 5:30 p.m., and all are invited). • A number of politicians telling me that Quentin Kopp's lone vote on the Board refusing to support the mayor against the recall means the supervisor is again thinking of challenging Dianne Feinstein in November. One supervisor told me, "Quentin was telegraphing a message to his supporters to tell them to vote against Dianne" in April, and if the vote is close enough, "Kopp will jump in with both feet."

In L.A. Gay Republican members of the supposedly nonpartisan Municipal Elections Committee of Los Angeles (MECLA) are threatening to withdraw support from that powerful group, claiming that MECLA has become "a fundraising arm of the Democratic Party." Attorney Thomas Hunter Russell, president of the Gay Log Cabin Republican Club of L.A., stated that "if MECLA doesn't return to its bipartisan roots, we non-Democrats certainly won't continue to support it." In 1982 MECLA raised in excess of \$200,000 for candidates for partisan political office, and GOP members are angered that only Democratic candidates were recipients of any of that money. • San Francisco Congressman Phil Burton has officially signed on as one of this session's four chief sponsors of the national Gay rights legislation; past national Gay rights bills carried only the names of New York City Congressman Ted Weiss and L.A. Congressman Henry Waxman (upwards of 80 congressmembers are expected to sponsor the Gay rights legislation this session, compared to only 61 during the last session).

The Dorian Group, the Seattle-based Gay rights organization, has hired a full-time Gay lobbyist, Russell Brubaker, as its state capitol advocate on Gay rights issues. This is something the Gay community in California should have been successfully doing a long time ago.



Milton Marks reduces his campaign debt at Twin Peaks party. (l. to r.) CRIR's president Bob Bacci, host Lee Anderson, Senator Marks, host Bob Rowland, and Chris Bowman. (Photo: Rink)

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# BAY AREA REPORTER GREATER BAY NEWS

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## OAKLAND

### Rolling and Punching

NEZ PAS

Once again, dear reader, it's time for yours truly to get on the hot seat, as it were, and be interviewed by those daring souls who let me impose upon their precious time.

As in the last go round, I won't mention their names. Instead, I'll refresh and challenge your memory by staring the date the interview took place. Up until the time of writing this column, I dared NOT look at any of the questions so all of my answers will be off the top of my head... sort of speaking!

**7/27/82:** If you could be anyone you wanted, other than who you are now, living or dead, who would you be and why?

**Nez:** The exact placing of "living or dead" makes me wonder if that person had doubts about my physical and mental facilities! Anyway, if that impossibility were allotted to me, I think I would definitely have to select Oscar Levant! He was noted for his drinking! Besides, I have always wanted to play the piano. And who else but that man could have come up with the classic saying, "Let's scrape away the phony tinsel of Hollywood and get down to the real tinsel!"

**8/6/82:** Why do you think we have so much bickering in our community, and what do you think can be done to have a more united community?

**Nez:** To be quite frank, I honestly feel that jealousy and down right dishonesty are a cause for most of the bickering. What can be done? Might I suggest that it be burned down so that the entire thing can be started at square one... with everyone equal. But keep in mind, history does repeat itself, and we do not and never have learned from history!

**9/24/82:** In your feeling,

what would improve the relations between Gay and Lesbian society as a whole?

**Nez:** ... I'm biting my typewriter keys! My first reaction would make a parking lot out of my home! Relations between any individuals or groups can only be improved from understanding and a willingness to listen and learn. I suspect that far too many are unyielding to accept lest they themselves become accepted. Once accepted, certain priorities must be adhered to, and in that adhering, changes occur. People in general are afraid of change!

**9/27/82:** What parts of the East Bay (Oakland) gay scene don't you cover and why?

**Nez:** For the most part, things that I don't cover are the things about which I either know nothing or am not informed. Too frequently information is given to me almost after the fact, and other plans have already been arranged. I sincerely try to report on a variety of things, because I know that one type of event is not of interest to everyone. In selecting the coverage, the choices are extremely difficult because if it is written about I hear "Who in the hell cares about that?" If it isn't written about imaginary toes are stepped upon. In this business, if I may take the liberty to call it that, it is impossible for me to "plug" an event or affair for the very next issue, when I'm not informed until after that issue is already on the press. People fail to realize that my column, along with most of the others, are written a week in advance. So, by the time it's written and then published, two weeks have lapsed. It's very frustrating, at times, to keep on top of all this "timing business." Another factor which must be mentioned is finances. Just because I write about

something doesn't grant me gratis admission. I pays my money and takes my chances just like everyone else.

**10/14/82:** Rather than ask a question, I would like to take this space to announce that Eric Johnson, cocktail waiter at the Bench and Bar, has started a wake-up service called "Wake Up With Eric." For further information, contact Eric personally at 357-8488.

**Nez:** Since no question was asked, no answer can be given... but don't call... call Eric. (Thanks, Villan!)

**10/26/82:** Being a school teacher should be rewarding. I'm sure it isn't, because of what I see in you. Now, why not give all of your talents toward financial goals being second but foremost, through helping your community with the best establishment in the East Bay? What do you think?

**Nez:** Answering the second question first, I think that I don't really understand the first question! I shall, however, give it a try. I don't know what you "think" you see in me but teaching school does, indeed, have it's rewards. Not financially, Lord knows, but the work is steady and extremely challenging... and those HOLIDAYS!!!! Not a week goes by that something doesn't occur to restore my faith in the younger generation... besides, the scenery ain't too shabby either! As far as putting all my talents into an establishment, I sincerely believe that it would alter and distort my own personal outlooks and beliefs to a point of turning me into something I do not really wish to become. Besides, just because I bitch and complain about my job doesn't mean that I am not happy... in that bitching and complaining!

**11/30/82:** What do you enjoy the most about being gay?

**nez:** Oh, shit!!! Dirty pool. Just because I asked you that question, now you're getting even???? Well, sweetheart, if you really must know, the most fascinating thing I find about being gay is a certain superiority feeling I have over

the straights. I feel that I know as much about life as they do, but they sure as hell don't know half as much about life as I do. I realize it is supposed to be a sin to feel superior... but, damnit, it seems that they (the straights) are missing so much from their existence!

**12/28/82:** Dear Nesyperson/ Knowing well not only your sense of humor but your athletic prowess, what do you think or how do you approach this wonderful and interesting world of gayness as an intercal (sic) part of the whole?

**Nez:** I roll with the punches and punch with the rolls! I want to be myself, but I don't know which self people want me to be! All I know is, it was all so different before everything changed!

**1/13/83:** Gads! They're getting vicious this time! Peter is a mixture of ideas and influences, living in a body controlled by a double Gemini sign. There are four of me in this here body! Peter is serious while at play, and

(Continued on Page 27)

### Diablo Rap

The Diablo Valley Gay Rap Support group meets each Friday night from 8 to 9:30 AM at 1818 Colfax in downtown Concord. A guest speaker from Contra Costa Al Anon will lead discussion on "The Drunk Is with Me" on February 18. Info: 827-2960.

### Valentine Mail

A Private Mail-List Valentine's Day party will be held at B Street, 236 South B Street in San Mateo, on Monday, February 14 at 8 PM, with an open bar from 8 to 9:30.

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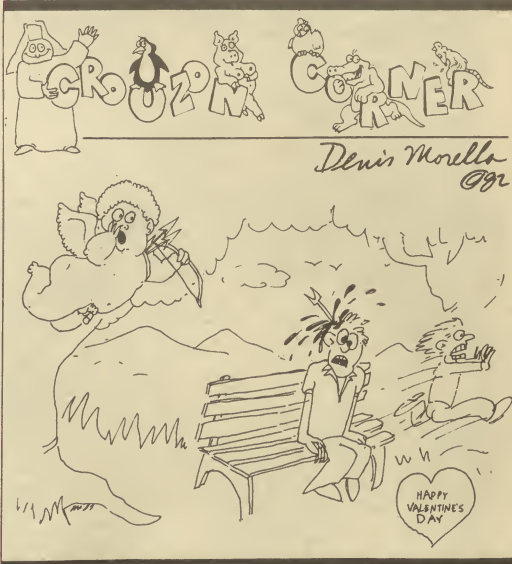
**14K GOLD BULL CHAINS**

### Pacific Party

The Pacific Center For Human Growth, 2712 telegraph (at Derby) is having a fund raising Valentine's Day Party from 7:30 to 12 PM on Friday, February 11. Entertainment will be provided by "Common Threads," the Lesbian Feminist Theatre collective. There will be music for dancing and refreshments. Admission is \$2 to \$5, sliding scale, and the party is wheelchair accessible.

### Housing Hopes

The Billy DeFrank Lesbian and Gay Community Center is looking for a new home. They are soliciting community input in choosing a new facility so that as many needs as possible can be met. An open meeting at the Center (86 Keyes Street) is scheduled to discuss these needs on Monday, February 14 from 7:30 to 9 PM.





# BAY AREA REPORTER ENTERTAINMENT

TAGE SCREEN SHOWS ROCK OPERA INTERVIEWS BOOKS MUSIC THE ARTS STAGE SCREEN SHOWS ROCK OPERA INTERVIEWS BOOKS MUSIC THE ARTS STAGE SCREEN

## STAGE

### Crimes of 'War Stories'

by Scott Treimel

**W**ar Stories, which opened last week at Studio Rhino, is subtitled *Tales from the Battle of the Sexes*. You understand. Combat figures big here. The play involves three women who collect in a bar and discuss the fight to achieve hetero communion in a world where self-fulfillment reigns and impairs the ability to couple. With this social relevancy Neil Jensen debuts as a playwright and Studio 4 as a production company. Neither is especially bad, though the emotional rhythms of the play are out of whack and betray inexperience. But it is the consciousness that informs the play that deserves attention here, and that because it is ill-liberated.

Of the three women there is Nora, whose bark hard defenses distance her from her experience. She slings cynicism at Sharon, a practicing Christian, a guileless moralizer. Between them sits Melinda, who varies no more than between complacent and smug, perhaps because she's the one in an enduring relationship. In turn each woman leaves the bar scene to enact a romantic disaster in the generic living room downstage.

First, Nora. Her story re-creates a dinner date with Tom, a sometime trick. He affects a pose as a worldly bachelor in a fancy pad but gracelessness foils his deceit. Nora, ired, leaves, though pausing first to pronounce that spe-

present, giddy innuendos fly. Sharon tells Dick her breast is tattooed. He wants her to show it and she does. They kiss but he is overeager and she is repelled. Dick gets piqued, pulls a knife, threatens rape. He slaps her, she cries. He eventually leaves.

Thus, Sharon's story is the prick tease story. *Prick tease*, the phrase itself belies a misplaced sympathy, but Mr. Jensen obviously believes this scene represents the summit of the liberated intelligence. Sharon is presented as an innocent, she makes gestures naively, gestures that, however unwitting, tease Dick (the prick) just the same. Is it Sharon or her naivete we are meant to censure? It matters not, for in either case the question implicates the victim and advances the distortion that rape originates outside the rapist. Mr. Jensen intends that we censure Sharon's innocence: it is impractical in a war zone.

At first glance this reasoning appears sound enough, and it is provided the status of a given. Yet, it is precisely from the mentality that grants this that women clamor to take back the night. It is a patronizing mentality, the kind that counsels you for your own good, sighs, I'm sorry, honey, you've got to be realistic — the night is off limits.

Perhaps Mr. Jensen has considered this story poorly. Director Constance Cramer appears cognizant of what she



Norbert Gabriel Breitke, sweet bauble of Theatre Rhino's box office, plays Tom opposite Terry Lang as Nora in Studio 4's production of *WAR STORIES*.

cious imperative of the specious self-aware: Be yourself.

Sharon's story comes next but I'll treat it, as Mr. Jensen should have, last.

Reformed radical Harry is the significant other in Melinda's story, a boyfriend lately out of the picture. The two discuss abortion, Melinda reciting the litany of the politically correct, Harry revealing the shoddy, self-serving logic of the sensitive straight White male.

Now, Sharon's story. Sharon meets Dick at a party. They begin a conversation and she invites him home to finish it. Sexual tension is

does, and it is infuriating. She lingers on Sharon's torture, plays the audience of voyeurs of the meanest sort, and exploits the cultivated itch to see women terrorized. Two women left in the middle of this scene and during intermission a fellow exclaimed: "Well, reaction's what it's all about." Precisely my complaint. We don't consider this rape, we merely react.

*War Stories* raises lots of questions but what I want answered is for whom does Sharon's scene exist and why?

**War Stories**  
Studio 4 at Studio Rhino  
Through Feb. 27; 861-5079

### Simon Comes Out — as a Playwright

by Steve Warren

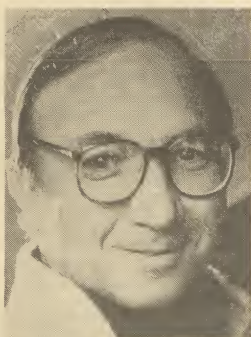
**N**eil Simon was a TV comedy writer who built a dozen hit plays on his uncanny ability to string gags together. He's spent the last several years in a cocoon, sending out an occasional mediocre stage- or screenplay to let us know he was still alive.

With *Brighton Beach Memoirs* Simon sheds the cocoon. The metamorphosis is complete and one of Amer-

among the best scenes in a play that's loaded with great ones.

The strength of the writing shines through a production that's lacking in many respects. It's ironic that Simon has gotten away with writing Jewish dialogue for genteel characters for 20 years; now that he's finally written about Jews they're not being played that way.

Elizabeth Franz, as the mother, looks like something



supposed to bring the play down as much as she does in a second act scene with her older daughter (Jodi Thelen). Peter Michael Goetz invests the father with enough universal humanity to get by, and Mandy Ingber is okay as the pampered younger daughter.

Director Gene Saks has worked with Simon many times and should have known how better to serve the best script that's ever been handed to him. The set (David Mitchell) and lighting (Tharon Musser) design would be acceptable in a local production but Broadway audiences expect something more.

Cast changes in the course of its Broadway run will only improve *Brighton Beach Memoirs*, with the exception of Broderick, who should be old enough to play the father by the time the show closes. Unlike most of today's disposable dramas, this one will be as good in fifty or a hundred years as it is today.

**Brighton Beach Memoirs**  
Curran Theatre  
Through March 12; 673-4400



**HIGH GRADES** — Zeljko Ivanek (l.) reads the report card of his brother Matthew Broderick in Neil Simon's *BRIGHTON BEACH MEMOIRS*. The two young men are the best performers in the cast of seven but the script is strong enough to survive a lot worse.

ica's greatest playwrights has emerged. This play is an instant classic, one that repertory companies will be waiting in line to produce if its Broadway run ever ends.

If Thornton Wilder had written *Ah, Wilderness!* or *Life with Father* the result would have been akin to *Brighton Beach Memoirs*. This is Neil Simon's story of his fifteenth year. The names are different, but the play is an obvious prequel to Simon's first hit, *Come Blow Your Horn*.

The characters are mostly one-dimensional, but there are seven of them and seven dimensions are enough for any play.

Matthew Broderick, an exception to the rule that the writing is better than the acting, is Simon's younger self, "Eugene," who lives with his parents, his older brother, his mother's sister and her two daughters, in Brighton Beach, a section of Brooklyn. It's 1937 and they're more likely to be visited by relatives escaping from Poland than the prosperity that's just around the corner.

Broderick charms the audience with his gawky manner, his stooped walk and a lot of surefire Simon material. His birds-and-bees conversations with his brother, who is well-played by Zeljko Ivanek, are

out of Dickens. Her delivery fights all but the best lines to a draw. Joyce Van Patten isn't given a lot of gags as the boarding aunt, but she's not

☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆

#### Gertie Helps Rhino

Only several more performances remain of the Theatre Rhinoceros benefit performances of Pat Bond in her critically acclaimed play, *Gerty, Gerty, Gerty Stein is Back, Back, Back!* The last shows will be given Thursday through Sunday, February 10-13, at 8:30 PM

Written by Ms. Bond,  
*GERTY, GERTY, GERTY STEIN IS BACK, BACK,*

Tickets are ten dollars. For further information, call 861-5079.



☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆



## STAGE

### A (Lengthy) Night In Old Vienna

by John F. Karr

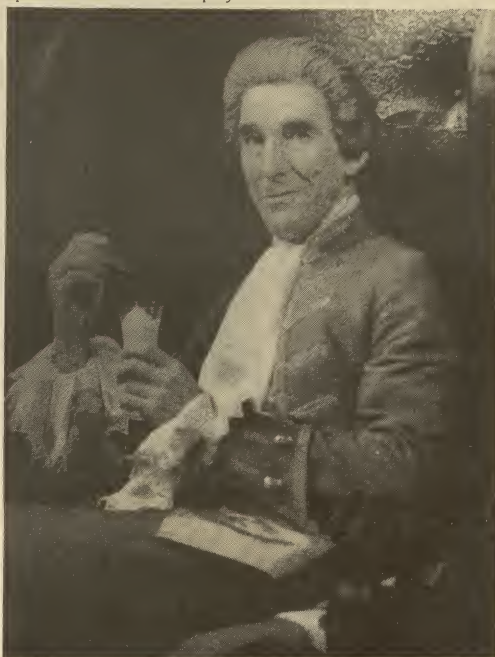
Ach, *Amadeus*! In the name of what god has this contraption come to be? It is a marvel of trumpety. It has ruffled miles of waistcoats, breeches and bodices, a decorator's delight of courtly furniture and fancily theatrical stages within stages, sweet little cupcakes of philosophy, a copse of flowery language and an overwhelming of acting that smothers down on the audience like a dust cover on a divan. And all to cosmetize the fact that there's not much play here.

*Amadeus* tells the highly fictionalized story of Antonio Salieri, court composer to Joseph II, the Emperor of Austria. Legend has it that he poisoned Mozart, his supposed arch-rival. He didn't, but it would seem to make a decent jumping off place for a play. Author Peter Shaffer presents Salieri's life with his expected theatrical flim-flam. While ingenious staging and unconventional scripting became integral to his earlier hits *Royal Hunt of the Sun* and *Equus*, his writing here betrays the staging, turning it to mere effect. The entire play is supposition, but even more, is based on a false premise.

Salieri professes to be religious, and calls music God's art. He decides to worship God by composing music in His honor. However, he also wants fame, "to blaze like a comet." When he strikes a pact with God at the evenings start — his religious fervor in exchange for fame — the outcome of the play is decided. One doesn't make pacts with God. This is Salieri's flaw, but it's too obvious. Three hours of ranting later he says God has betrayed him, causing him to be mediocre. But he was mediocre from moment one, and this alleviates our interest

in both his development and the realization of his own flaws. Critics frequently complain that the subjects of most modern tragedies lack tragic stature. Here's one without stature at all. The conclusion of the play is painfully obvious, and thin at that, from the start.

Mozart, portrayed as a course, foul-mouthed boor, retains interest due to his life-force, spontaneity and naivete. He makes no bargains. He lives to the fullest, and composes that way too. His characterization provides life for the play.



John Wood, as the composer Salieri, gets to consume two or three whipped-cream delights during *AMADEUS*. Perhaps the B.A.R. reviewer would have enjoyed the talkative, thin evening more if the ushers had served desserts.

Mark Hamill's portrayal, though, is one dimensionally hyper. High-level Performance! is the style 1/2 Little nuance or actual humanity is to be found, especially in John Wood's bravura version of Salieri. He sputters, groans, croons, declaims, speaks in twenty registers and with amazing rhythmic irregularity. This covers the fact that most of what he says is padding.

A running joke of *Amadeus* is the oft-repeated criticism of Mozart — too many notes. Which of course is the problem with *Amadeus* — too many words. What sophistry here, what surfeit of surface. Ach, *Amadeus*! ■

**Amadeus**  
Golden Gate Theatre  
Through Feb. 27: 775-8800.

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### Bowers Beauties

It's been a long trip for Bill Bowers from Wichita Falls, Texas, to Tina and the Wasp Women. The Texas-born photographer will exhibit this photo of Tina as part of a new show of oversized color enlargements. The show opens on Valentine's Day, February 14, at the Folsom Street Hotel from 7 to 10 p.m., and can be seen through February 28.

Tina will be present at the opening, as will other local personalities whose images appear in the show, such as Maria Sanchez.

Bowers is dedicating the show to Edie Sedgwick, "because of her lifestyle." That will be pleasing news to Edie.

Bowers has been the frequent recipient of pleasing news himself. As the creator of Sculpture Fashion he has created clothing for Mick Jagger and Julie Christie, among others, which has been collected by the Smithsonian. He made a cape for Salvador Dali which had stuffed white rats appliqued, and he made a transparent plastic jacket for Alice Cooper with \$100 inside.

Bowers' photographs document the colorful, creative, and picturesque people he has known. ■



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## GayWHOGayWHATGayWHEREGayWHENGayWHY

### Equal Rights In Music

The New York Times was concise. They called the Berlin Philharmonic's refusal to allow a second woman into its august ranks gynophobia. Fear of women. If that's the case, those German chauvenists would probably turn to stone if they encountered The Bay Area's Women's Philharmonic. Under its squawky acronym, BAWP, the female orchestra is barely into its second full season as the only symphony organization in the country devoted to researching and performing the work of women composers. BAWP's rapid success can be measured by the story of Miriam Abrams, the orchestra's Managing Director and co-founder, Elizabeth Min, Abrams a pianist herself, has been the promotion coordinator for Olivia Records, the largest women's recording company in the world. A friend of BAWP's Music Director and co-founder, Elizabeth Min, Abrams volunteered to help Min when the group began.

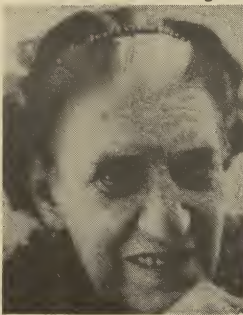
"Little did I know I'd become their business manager," Abrams told the B.A.R. "But the BAWP grew so fast. We went from performing in McKenna Auditorium to Herbst Hall to Zellerbach auditorium in little over a year. To do all the

work connected with this in my spare time was crazy. So in February this became my full time job. I had to leave Olivia Records.

"There are no other women's orchestra's promoting women composers. There are other women's groups, but none with our political intent.

"Women composers were not kept track of. To do the research and find the great pieces is difficult. It's made harder by the lack of recordings and the difficulty in getting scores. Many of the works we perform are American or Bay Area premiers.

"Our next concert is on Saturday, February 19 at 8 PM in Zellerbach Hall. Dr. Antonia Brico is our special guest conductor. She'll conduct Beethoven's Eighth



Dr. Antonia Brico, guest conductor of the BAWP.

Symphony and two shorter pieces. One is the 'Proud Thames Overture' by Elizabeth Maconchy, a Scotch composer born in 1907. Cecile Chaminade — you know, 'The Scarf Dance' — composed the 'Concertstück for Piano and Orchestra,' which Ms. Brico will conduct with Elizabeth Min as piano soloist. I don't know why this French composer gave her concerto a German name.

"In keeping with our policy of giving as many women experience conducting as possible, Dr. Brico will cede the baton to J. Karla Lemon for the 'Short Piece for Orchestra,' by Julia Perry. Ms. Perry, who died only 3 years ago, was one of the few Black American women composers. We had to copy her score by hand from crumbling orchestral parts. Her publishers weren't sure they even had it at first.

"We function in highly uncharted waters. But despite low salaries, our musicians (80% of whom are professional) feel a strong spirit in playing with the BAWP, and that adds so much to the music. You have to be there to experience it."

Tickets to the February 19 concert of the Bay Area Women's Philharmonic are available at Bass outlets. A reception for Dr. Brico, including a biographical film by Judy Collins, will be held on February 16. The \$25 tickets benefit the BAWP. Call 469-7488

### Come Out, Tootsie!

A facial salon and the Castro's oldest cabaret are teaming up to find a new sweetheart — someone to play the roll of "Tootsie." The Prima Facie salon and Fanny's Cabaret are out to choose a Tootsie Look-alike, modelled after the famous Dorothy performed by Dustin Hoffman in the film **Tootsie**.

### The Shame Is On The Other Foot

Many Homosexuals are not happy with the word "Gay" to describe their lifestyle. That's old news. A new twist is the following letter from a man whose surname is Gay. And he's not happy about it.

**Organization to Vindicate the Name of Gay** is bannered across the top of the letter, which begins, "Dear Member of the Gay Family."

"My name is Larry Kenneth Gay and I'm tired. Tired of the association between the Gay family name and the homosexuals of this land. Tired of the news media's casual acceptance and usage of the term 'gay' rights. Tired of my small boys being harassed for being 'gay' when they are Gay. Tired of being ashamed to use my name as part of my business name — 'Gay Printing.'

"In times past when a person heard the word 'gay' he would immediately think of something light-hearted, happy, or full of cheer. Now, sad to say, when the word 'gay' is mentioned the first thing that comes to mind of the majority of the people is

something quite different. A simple phrase such as 'he's a gay old man' may, in our present society, call the man's moral character and sexual practices into question.

"It is to our shame that we have sat idly by and allowed the homosexuals of our country to use our family name as a euphemism for their chosen lifestyle. Even though I cannot keep them from living the way they choose, I am determined to stop the association they have perpetrated.

"But I cannot do it alone.

"I am asking you to join your voice with mine in a cry of liberation from the chains that are entangling our fine family name. I need your organizational, moral and financial support.

"I need your organizational support in order to set up a network of caring people across this great land. People who will get involved and write letters to the editor of their local newspaper. People who will leave literature at the local laundromat. People who care enough to speak out against this violation.

"I need your financial help. Printing, mailing, advertising, and telephoning are

Lori Shannon (also known as Don McLean) will be the other judges.

"Prizes will be given to the best contestants, and have been supplied by Fanny's, Prima Facie and other Castro merchants. The contest will be held at Fanny's on Sunday, February 13 from 3 PM. Contestants should pick up an entry blank from the two sponsors before the contest."

expensive. All these things are essential if we are to be heard. It is my goal to contact every person in the country with the last name of Gay. An effective advertising campaign will also be initiated as soon as possible.

"It is my intention to serve as the focal point in this undertaking. I will keep every member informed of our progress on a monthly basis, including our financial status.

"If we each do our part, our cry will reach the ears of the national media. We will take our case to the people and, if necessary, to the courts. If we stand by and do nothing, our children are doomed to stand in shame of their God-given family name.

"Let us not fail our children.

Sincerely yours,  
Larry K. Gay

What Mr. Gay really needs is not our money or support, but tons of letters from Gays who aren't ashamed to be or to tell him that it's his prejudice and narrow minded fear that are shameful. Mr. Gay was kind enough to supply his address — so tell him what you think. Organization To Vindicate the Name of Gay, 1411 Ragweed Court NE, Salem, Oregon, 97301.

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## FILM CLIPS

REVIEWS BY MICHAEL LASKY & STEVE WARREN

'Without A Trace'

### "I Wish It Had Never Been Made," Says Reviewer of Homophobic Film

Here's the schizophrenic reviewer watching *Without A Trace*. A trained, objective journalist, he admires it as a suspenseful, well acted drama about a woman's search for her missing 6-year-old son.

But as a politically aware Gay man he noted enough loaded references and situations to set the Gay movement back 20 years. Things are righted in the final half-hour, but can that reverse the damage done in the first 90 minutes?

From the moment a cop looks at a photograph of the missing youth and says, "Good looking boy," we know they're going to look for a faggot to pin it on. The following night the detective in charge of the investigation calls the boy "... a beautiful kid. If he's not dead by now he might be better off if he was."

So it goes. A witness claims to have seen the child with "a pimply guy in leathers." A prime suspect is a man involved in "chicken porn," a former dentist who was disbarred for molesting young male patients under ether.

When an arrest is made it's "a convicted sex offender and avowed homosexual" who was found using a whip on a 14-year-old hustler. The distraught mother goes on television to plead for help in finding her son — on a show called "Straight Talk;" and when, in a totally irrelevant scene, she goes out alone to a movie, what does she see? **Cruising!**

Eventually the Gay suspect gets to present his side movingly; then there are lectures: most child molesters are heterosexual, people shouldn't hide their heads in the sand where homosexuality is concerned, etc. The ending is so much less volatile than what has gone before as to be anticlimactic.

But will the person whose homophobic myths and fears have been reinforced for an hour and a half be willing to give them up at this point? Will the plot's change of direction make them realize they have misjudged us? I doubt it. The recent East Coast scandal that falsely linked NAMBLA (North American Man/Boy Love Association) to the disappearance of 6-year-old Etan Patz (whose story in-



STOCKARD COMPANY — Stockard Channing (r.) helps Kate Nelligan search for her missing son in *WITHOUT A TRACE*, which contains more than a trace of homophobia.

spired the novel this movie is based on) proved that the public is still ready to believe the worst about us, and the media are still ready to feed it to them.

*Without A Trace* is set in Making Love country — the upper middle class — where a husband and wife separate because her book is published before his, and where the police respond *en masse* to a call for help.

Kate Nelligan, well on her way to becoming one of our major actresses, bids for her first Oscar nomination (but will anyone remember a year from now?) as the mother whose iron control only seems to slip when one of her allies is around to suffer the consequences.

Stockard Channing, who should be playing leads, is excellent as her best friend. Their scenes together say a lot about women's — or any-

one's — support systems. Judd Hirsch lends quiet strength to the role of the police detective, and David Dukes is good as the estranged husband.

To be sure, children still have to be warned against getting into cars with strangers. We'll leave NAMBLA debate what the age of consent should be, but there are sickos of many stripes who would prey on the naive of youngsters. A frightening subtext of *Without A Trace* is the smooth efficiency with which the police and press swing into action, indicating what a common occurrence kidnapping is.

The best we can hope for is that *Without A Trace* will stimulate some illuminating dialogue, but I wish it had never been made. ■

(Coronet) S. Warren

### Coup de Torchon (Clean Slate)

Too Many Questions

Could it be that French director Bertrand Tavernier has so much to say — and always ambivalently — that his new film *Coup de Torchon* gets bogged down in muddled messages?



Philippe Noiret and Isabelle Huppert in *COUP DE TORCHON*.

Is there a reason for the inexplicable mixture of comedy and sudden grisly violence? Is the eclectic Philippe Sarde music — part Poulenc, part Dixieland, part 12-tone row — indicative of some deeper meanings?

Questions, Questions, Questions — that's all we get when it's answers, answers, answers that the audience

hungers for!

Is police-chief-in-small-1938-African-town Philippe Noiret really so stupid or is this merely a diversion to escape later suspicion when he goes on a "clean-the-slate" killing spree? First to get eliminated are two wiseass pimps (although what well-dressed pimps are doing in a small flea-ridden African town is another question). Then there's the abusive husband of Noiret's mistress, Isabelle Huppert (when she says "I'm coming" it's like she's tendering an RSVP). Others are dispatched with more bullets — and more questions. All of this is done in such a labored, message-movie fashion that Tavernier makes scenes plod like legless frogs.

Despite the singular excellence of Noiret, *Coup de Torchon* leaves us so confused and dissatisfied — if not asleep — that it seems hard to figure out why it is considered France's entry in the Academy Awards. ■

(Clay) M. Lasky

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## TALES OF TESSI TURA

### Unnatural Acts

GEORGE HYMONT

Can we talk? There seems to be a growing problem in the opera world. Call it necrophilic rape or just overzealous directors who insist on sodomizing the corpses of dead composers — it's reaching epidemic stages. While the musical preparation may be right on target, too often some asshole stage director strays so far off course from the composer's intentions that the singers might just as well be serving chicken fried steak in some Indiana truckstop.

I'm speaking primarily of the Met's new production of *Macbeth* which was greeted with caustic boos and catcalls at its premiere. Hooched up to the tits and looking like an operatic attempt to rival Walt Disney's *Pirates of the Caribbean*, one would never recognize this as a great evening of tragedy. Comedy, yes. Tragedy, no.

#### SCOTS ON THE ROCKS

Several years ago I interviewed Renato Scotto prior to her first Lady Macbeth at Covent Garden. "Considering the fact that Verdi was very specific in his wishes that Lady Macbeth not sing in a pretty voice and taking into account your current vocal estate, Renata, do you think you can do justice to the music?" I asked.

Scotto's eyes shot daggers at me and she hissed. "You know, I always like to work with the great directors."

Well, Renata got her wish all right (although I don't think it was to her benefit — certainly not after seeing her make her entrance in a dark maroon riding habit looking like she had just been fired from a bus-and-truck tour of *Mame*). I doubt that Sir Peter Hall's directorial intent was malicious; the man should know his Shakespeare by now. Let's just say it was an ill-advised fiasco and leave it at that.

Nonetheless, there was some superb music-making at the performance I attended. James Levine conducted the living daylights out of Verdi's score, capturing all the gut-wrenching vitality so often glossed over by lesser conductors. If you closed your eyes, your hair would stand on end from the sheer electricity coming from the pit. (Alas, if you opened your eyes, your hair would probably stand on end, too).

Both Sherrill Milnes and Paul Pliska were in top form, singing with a masculine strength and commitment to be relished. Timothy Jenkins' Macduff was accidentally comical due to his immense girth. To her credit, Scotto pulled out all stops. She undersang for a great deal of the opera, alternating between delicate pianissimi and blazing air-raid shelter warnings in the first act. Her sleepwalking scene, however, was exquisite — a model of consummate artistry rising

triumphant over adverse conditions.

#### HANDCUFFS, PLEASE!

Down in the nation's capital The Washington Opera was performing Rossini's *La Cenerentola* in the 500-seat Terrace Theatre above the Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts with similar problems. Although intensely conducted by Cal Stewart Kellogg, the production was sunk by directorial overkill. The villain here was that man so highly regarded as the person who can always make opera work on the stage — Gian Carlo Menotti! Perhaps farce is not Menotti's strong point — this *Cenerentola* would be a sound warning for him to retreat to more dramatic shores.

Zack Brown's new sets are simple and effective. As *Cenerentola*, Patricia Schuman revealed a robust mezzo-soprano with clear coloratura skills and one of the most relaxed throats I've come across in years. Allan Glassman's Dandini was vocally strong, but smothered in fussiness (as was the Don Magnifico of Francois Loup). Apparently, Menotti can't leave well enough alone — insisting on hammering home every incessant little joke until the evening palls. I've gagged on larger things than spoons but few of them sound as pretty as Rossini's score. What a shame for the composer's magic to be beaten to a pulp by a stage director's frantic overcompensation. Menotti's world-class professionalism brought a curiously provincial and amateurish tone to Washington Opera's *Cenerentola*.

What does all this mean? Simply that people in key



"What do they think I am — dumb or something?" asks Lady Macbeth (Renata Scotto) as she tries to maintain her dignity in the Met's catastrophic production of Verdi's opera.

production positions are not listening to the music — an odd bundle of worms when one considers that opera is supposed to be a healthy mixture of music and drama! In the Met's case *Macbeth* represents one of the costliest holiday turkeys ever to

emerge from the oven. By comparison (for sheer size and scope) the Washington Opera's *Cenerentola* was like a chestnut which had been burnt from too much fire.

Couldn't we be more careful when handling the goods? ■

## BACK TO BATON

### Fresh Blood and Thunder

PHILIP CAMPBELL

Young conductor Michael Tilson Thomas blew into town several weeks ago for two guest appearances with the San Francisco Symphony and with him came a gust of fresh air that chased some of the cobwebs accumulating in Davies Hall.

This is not to put a heavy knock on our own Maestro. DeWaar's recent presentation of the Mahler First proved that he is growing (albeit slowly), even if certain members of the orchestra stubbornly refuse to follow suit.

We were overdue for some guest shots-in-the-arm, however, and Eugene Ormandy and now Tilson Thomas have shown that the orchestra can play uniformly well (even the horns!) when they are showing off for a visitor.

At a glance Mr. Thomas' first program looked more like socolash than smorgasbord. Travelling conductors usually try to display the range of their talent but by its conclusion this concert bill demonstrated the former director of the Buffalo Philharmonic had more in mind than a mere tour de force.

Opening with Carl Ruggles' seldom heard "Evocations," continuing with the Sibelius Sixth Symphony and closing with Ravel's "La Valse," Tilson Thomas let us know that he was thinking of a singular statement and continuity when he laid his plans.

The program was un-

balanced somewhat by the appearance of Isaac Stern in the Medelsohn Violin Concerto. Most audience members obviously considered this to be the real centerpiece of the evening. I saw it as a pleasant diversion.

Stern was suffering from his usual pitch problems but he



We've heard of Kitten on the Keys, but this is ridiculous! P.D.Q. Bach will be represented in the Mostly Mozart festival on February 14 in Davies Hall by Peter Schickele. The Festival continues with performances by Jean-Pierre Rampal, Garrick Ohlsson and a screening of Ingmar Bergman's *MAGIC FLUTE* film on February 27. Schedule information, at 431-5400.

played vigorously and used a minimum of his customary theatrics.

Tilson Thomas and the Symphony gave him especially helpful support. Like a woman hastily tidying her hair, Thomas swept each loose tendril of sound up into a precise little bun that minimized Stern's errors and showed him off to best advantage. The Scherzo rollicked with enough good humor to elicit smiles from audience and players alike.

The focal point of the evening for me was the Sibelius though. An unabashed enthusiast of his Symphonic output, I heard this as a performance to treasure.

In his compositions, Sibelius burned the fat out of every score to produce works of glowering intensity and detached lyricism. The Sixth Symphony is a bit more good natured and robust than the rest and in some ways less affecting, but in his organic sense of flow and urgency

Sibelius created a poem of brilliant clarity and depth.

Mr. Thomas captured the essence perfectly and gratefully the orchestra was able to follow his forward thrust in a rendition that was over all too soon. Catching hints of Ravellian orchestration here and there made clear why Thomas chose the lush Ravel tone poem for a finale.

Most performances of "La Valse" have a more violent feeling of menace. It is meant to have a certain queasy element of subdued terror but Tilson Thomas aimed for

suavity and elegance. In light of what had gone before it became a satisfying statement nonetheless. Especially appropriate when one thought back to the opening Ruggles piece. If Ravel's thrilling sonorities are at one end of the spectrum then Ruggles' lean angularities are surely at the other.

The more substantial Sibelius rests securely in the middle.

The emphasis shifted unexpectedly from conductor to soloist with the second concert series. This time it was the gifted Yo-Yo Ma who walked away with the laurels with his brilliant no-holds-barred rendition of the Dvorak Cello Concerto.

Some of the stuffer critics among us fault the young Mr. Ma with an immaturity of vision, though they certainly praise his technique. I'm afraid they're letting their eyes get in the way of their ears.

Yo-Yo Ma has an appealing stage presence but far more important is his thrilling style. Rarely does one encounter phrasing so exquisitely "right" with such ravishing body. His attack is flawless and virile. What some complained was a too "Russian" approach seemed to me to simply be an intelligent nod to the Tchaikovsky elements in Dvorak's score.

Musical interpretations, like acting styles, change with the seasons and when one is playing an old warhorse such as this there is plenty of room for divergent opinion. Ma opted for brilliance rather than burnishment and the results were stunning.

The second half of the program proved understandably anticlimactic. The full length

Stravinsky "Firebird" is rarely heard in concert halls. There's a good reason. It is interesting from a musical standpoint to hear the ballet uncut but it is dance music and what might work wonderfully for the stage does contain moments of undeniable banality when played in a different setting.

Tilson Thomas approached the work with the sensible idea of turning it into a tone poem. His carefully understated conducting worked well until the Finale when he lost all control and turned things into a free-for-all. His frenetic tempo was out of context and a great deal of the excitement was defused. The audience loved it, however, and it seems a minor complaint considering the powerful enjoyment this attractive Maestro has given us for two weeks running.

#### MAKE WAY FOR MOZART

Just when you thought it was safe to go into Davies again along comes the crazed Professor Peter Schickele to usher in the Symphony's fourth annual Mostly Mozart Festival. Besides the irrepressible P.D.Q. Bach we'll be treated to a candlelight recital at lovely Herbst Theatre, a Mozart Marathon at Davies Hall, and guest appearances by such renowned artists as Jean-Pierre Rampal, George Cleve, Garrick Ohlsson, and the Tokyo String Quartet.

The Festival runs from Valentine's Day through March 1st. So there's time to get geared up for an extended visit with the glorious music of "the beloved of God." A wonderful way to "step from the commonplace into the rare." Full schedules are available at the Davies Hall box office. ■



## BOOK RACK

### New Light on Eternal Truths

#### The Bible and Homosexuality

by Rev. Michael E. England  
M.C.C. San Francisco; \$1 paperback

by Steve Warren

**H**ow can you call yourself a Christian if you're Gay? That's a question we hear frequently from parents, friends, and television and street corner evangelists. More importantly it's a question many Lesbians and Gay men still ask themselves.

Despite the phenomenal growth of Gay religious organizations within almost every major denomination since Rev. Troy D. Perry founded Metropolitan Community Church (MCC) in 1968 to reach out to Gays who felt alienated from God's love, many still fail to see how the Christian message applies to them.

The main stumbling block between Gays and religion is the traditional attitude of mainline churches, the preaching that homosexuality is sinful and the expulsion of many of us from churches because of our Gayness. It's natural for someone who's been rejected by a church to equate that with rejection by God.

My favorite religious tract is a pamphlet boldly titled "What Jesus Said about Homosexuality." When you open it, the other pages are blank!

It's a cute gimmick, but it doesn't explain the scriptural writings of Paul and others which are commonly used to condemn us. These are dealt with in a manner that's intelligent but not scholarly to the point of unreadability. In the booklet **The Bible and Homosexuality** (3rd Edition) by Rev. Michael E. England, pastor of MCC San Francisco, who has done extensive research in this area and teaches frequent seminars on the subject.

England begins by explaining the process of translation and interpretation and how they need to be open to new-found information. Many errors in biblical interpretation stem from lifting passages out of context (a practice called "proof-texting" which is akin to quoting a critic as saying "colossal" when what was said was "a colossal failure"); others are based on mistakes in translation or a misunderstanding of the sociocultural context in which they were written. New discoveries are constantly shedding light on the last two areas. There are eternal truths in the Bible but our comprehension of them is always changing. Imagine (or research) the major archaeological finds that have been made since the King James Version was published in 1611.

Sometimes differing translations reflect the biases and hang-ups of the translators — or their employers (King James, the Catholic church, etc.). In the story of David and Jonathan some translations say (I Samuel 20:41) "They kissed each other..." while such paraphrases (not the same as translations) as the Living Bible distort it to "The sadly shook hands..." The same change is made to Paul's instruction (Romans 16:16), "Greet each other with a holy kiss," a common practice in most MCC's while many churches settle for a handshake or less.

Many of the passages used to condemn homosexuality refer in fact to the customs of ancient fertility cults, which the Jews and later the Christians were exhorted to shun. These cults believed that having sex in the temple would encourage the gods to make the land more fertile. Such vital work could hardly be left to amateurs, so official temple prostitutes — male and female — were used.

Deuteronomy 23:17-18, I Kings 14:22-24 and 22:46 and II Kings 23:7 translate the female and male forms of the Hebrew word for "temple prostitute," in the King James Version, as "whore" and "sodomite" respectively. "Whore" is an unfortunate choice of words caused by limited knowledge in King

James' time; "sodomite" is just plain wrong, even by the 17th century understanding of the word, which covered all "unnatural" sex acts, homosexual and otherwise.

Genesis 19:4-11 is the account of the destruction of Sodom and Gomorrah. While the "sin of Sodom" is regarded by most modern scholars to be inhospitality, not homosexuality, words like "sodomy" and "sodomite" remain in our language to encourage the uneducated who are more concerned with their own opinions than the facts.

Verse 5 of that account is typically translated as in the Revised Standard Version, "And they called to Lot, 'Where are the men who came to you tonight? Bring them out to us that we may know them.'" While we sometimes speak of knowing someone "in the biblical sense," Dr. Derek Bailey found in the 1950's that the Hebrew word for "know" used in this verse occurs 943 other times in the Old Testament (not counting a story similar to that of Sodom and Gomorrah in Judges 19:22). In only ten of those instances does the word have a sexual meaning, and all of those are heterosexual.

Whatever the meaning of "know" and the intent of the original Sodomites, their unfriendly behavior was typical of that for which God had already decided to destroy the city.

Leviticus 18:22 and 20:13-14 are the portions of the Holiness Code which condemn lying with or having intercourse with "a man as with a woman." This law, which refers only to anal intercourse between males and none of our other forms of sexual expression, is again thought to have been intended to deter the Israelites from imitating fertility cults (the god Molech is mentioned). It may also have alluded to the military practice of the day (through probably not an Israeli custom) of raping conquered soldiers to add to their humiliation.

These laws also reflect the status of women in that time, when it was thought okay to use them as sexual objects but not to use other men (created

in the image they had of God) in the same way.

Christians, even those hypocrites who fling these passages at us while ignoring Levitical statutes regarding food and clothing, have the further promise that Christ freed us from these laws while preaching a law of love. As Paul wrote: "Now we have been released from the law — for we have died to what bound us — and we serve in the new spirit, not the antiquated letter." (Romans 7:6, New American Bible). "Any of you who seek your justification in the law have severed yourselves from Christ and fallen from God's favor." (Galatians 5:4, New American Bible).

Translators have an especially hard time with words which appear only in lists, with no context to clarify their specific meaning. The Greek word *arsenokeeteh* is found this way in I Timothy 1:10 and accompanied by *malakee* in I Corinthians 6:9.

There is no question that the persons listed are outside of God's favor because of their acts, but neither is there justification for translating either or both words as "homosexuals," as some translations do. *Malakee* literally meant "soft." Its colloquial usage here more likely meant "morally weak" than King James' "effeminate." In any case the latter stereotype for gays is of more recent vintage.

*Arsenokeeteh* breaks into two words, the first meaning "male" and the second a crude Greek term equivalent to "fucker." The combination is found nowhere else in the Bible and rarely in other ancient writings, so it's still not clear who was doing what to whom in Paul's mind; it may be yet another reference to temple prostitutes. Neither word can be found in other Greek writings of the time in reference to homosexual acts — the Greeks had other words for those (though no word for a homosexual person).

Finally we have good ol' Romans 1:26-27: "That is why God has abandoned them to degrading passions: why their women have turned from natural intercourse to unnatural practices and why their menfolk have given up natural intercourse to be consumed with passion for each other, men doing shameful things with men and getting an appropriate reward for their perversion." (Jerusalem Bible)

This discourse on the penalties for idolatry includes what may be the only reference to Lesbian behavior in the Bible, if that is what it refers to.

The idolatrous activity addressed here was again probably in the context of fertility cults. The rationalization that homosexuality is natural for some of us is probably not valid because Paul wasn't aware of such a distinction, let alone varying degrees of bisexuality.

Rev. England devotes more than four pages to this passage, concluding in part: "Whatever... Paul may have thought about homosexual behavior in general, he does not give us that information explicitly, here in the Romans passage or anywhere in his writing. What he discusses here is homosexual practices which are both idolatrous and lustful... He is not referring to loving and caring relationships which acknowledge the image of the Creator in the

creature...

"Since God's verdict on all of creation was 'It is good,' this verdict does extend to sexuality. Nevertheless, the loving or lustful quality of sexuality, its idolatrous or godly content, are dependent upon how it is expressed by the individual..."

"When we so abandon ourselves to desire and selfishness that the other's personhood is obscured by our lust (whether in fertility cult worship or in the desperate pursuit of satisfaction in other ways), then... we are certainly failing to respect the image of God in ourselves and in the other. God has created every human being with free will. God will allow each of us to pursue the course we choose... If we insist on giving ourselves up to our lust, God will allow us to do so and will not abridge our

freedom to reject God, even as actively as fertility cult worship did in Rome."

If you've read this far I urge you to continue your research in the fine scholarly works which are turning up in bookstores with increasing frequency, or in Rev. England's booklet which is available (at \$1 per copy) from MCC San Francisco, 150 Eureka St., San Francisco, CA 94114.

All the information in the world won't convince those people who say, "If the King James Version was good enough for Jesus it's good enough for me!" but you'll feel better having intelligent answers to their stupid questions; and a little more knowledge may be comforting to the rational people in your life — including yourself — who are concerned about your spirituality. ■

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## VIDEO

### Say It With Music: Original Video Records

MICHAEL LASKY

With the advent of MTV-Music Television, record companies are discovering that video versions of songs can spur the sales of a record that might not otherwise be discovered. Similarly, videotaped mini-musicals and record albums are being released without ever being aired on television. They are completely original to the home video market.

Here are three diverse original video tapes that have been created expressly for home viewing.

**Elton John: Visions**  
Embassy Home Entertainment  
Stereo, 45 min., \$60

This is the video version of John's Fox album and it succeeds brilliantly, no doubt because director Russell Mulcahy is the best in the business, with a fine graphic sense.

The advantages of a visual interpretation of a song are obvious here, as with "Elton's Song." Even with the lyrics printed on the album, this was ambiguous as to gender. On the screen, it's quite clear as we watch a school boy's reverie about his maddening crush for an older school boy.

What is amazing for such a commercial venture is how obviously Gay themed much of the program is. The eleven songs are glued together by a tender-fleshed young man in a vested sci-fi garment that allows his nipples to air. His actions provide a bridge between songs. Elton's final smile as he puts the ethereal lad magically into his pocket says it all about where his mind is at.

"Fanfare" is an instrumental number highlighted with what looks like Kabuki drag queens' waving fluorescent

batons in a Busby Berkeley cheerleader routine. "Just Like Belgium" has a surreal '50s MGM musical quality to it as it sweeps through a bar where the hustlers (Gay, of course) hang out.

Repeatedly entertaining, this is an excellent video album well worth owning or renting.

**The Compleat Beatles**  
MGM/UA Home Video  
Stereo, 119 min., \$70

Based on the book of the same name, the roots of the Beatles music is thoroughly explored in sight and sound and a pastiche of existing and especially made interviews.

An abundance of still photos and black and white footage gives the video a static look and feel. Malcolm McDowell narrates in documentary style. The producers felt it necessary to dub recorded versions over otherwise mono-film clips to obtain Stereo sound. The authenticity of the newscasts is sabotaged by this fabricated ambience.

A rarely seen Strawberry Fields Forever promo film —

an early ancestor of the video music so readily available today — is shown, but is clipped of its power by the constant interjection of a George Martin interview instead of a voice-over.

We get snatches of performances and songs, disjointed and unsatisfying teasers which blatantly reveal that "This is not entertainment, folks; this is documentary." Hardly a re-viewable film, it is held together only by the compelling power of its subjects. Thus it makes the perfect rental. Go explain, then, why this \$70 tape is on the top ten sales charts.

**Michael Nesmith in Elephant Parts**  
Pacific Arts Video  
Stereo, 60 min., \$60

Remember Michael Nesmith? He was with the TV-created Beatles take-off group, The Monkees. Now older, more mature, and sporting an ingratiating beard, he has produced an original video album. It's a collection of five songs interspersed among comedy bits with full stage sets that show off an unstylish budget and an imagina-

tion flair.

There are "commercials," too, just like on "real" TV. So we have Neighborhood Nuclear Superiority, how to use warheads against those noisy people next door. And there are Elvis Drugs — All Shook Uppers, Love Me Tenderizers and Blue Suede Blues.

There are pokes at La La Land with location Sunset and Vine photography and a not so successful Rock and Roll Hospital bit.

"Have A Nice Day" is a howlingly clever cleaver at those slasher style horror flicks. And the finale has Nesmith in a Mel Brooks style production number that is as zany as the music is bouncy. Certainly parts of the tape are revisitable but the price tag would indicate again that rents are the best way to go with this one.

Purchase and rentals of these tapes is simple at The Video Mart, 279 Ninth Street, 621-7772. No membership requirements: \$4 fee for 2 nights or three tapes for 2 nights at \$10

# SPORTS NEWS

## TGWEDNESDAYNBL

### Stripping as the Balls Roll

JERRY R. DE YOUNG

A male stripper, plying his trade on Lane 15 at Park Bowl on the night of February 2, brought the vigorous bowling activities to an abrupt standstill. For a few minutes, the sensuous fantasy of being permitted to have one's way with another's undulating body beguiled the stunned bowlers. However, in this case, the burlesque artiste was performing his captivating eurythmics for the enjoyment of a specific bowler, who sat overwhelmed less than a yard from the oscillating hips of the skillful enticer.

This delightful interlude had been arranged by a close friend to celebrate the 28th birthday of the Pin Pals' syzygial bowler, Michael Lamberta. (By the way, Bunny, we all enjoyed your novel birthday present; thanks.)

On the same evening, the myth of invincibility which

surrounds the powerful Pendulum team was shattered as the Pin Pals achieved a three-game victory. This placed the PPals in the 2nd place position, protected by a fragile one-game buffer.

The Wooden Horse and the White Swallow also gave their opponents a drubbing by taking all three games on 2/2. A glance at the following impressive 200+ listing may help explain how these dynamic teams managed to overcome their adversaries so totally.

Tony Vance (W.S.)	264
Willi Ward (W.H.)	226
Michael Lamberta (PPals)	211, 226
Winston Matthews (PPals)	220
Tim Gunther (Tempts.)	212, 214
Bill Rowe (Ambush)	213
Dennis McLain (W.H.)	212
Art Toth (P-I)	204
Jon Thompson (Grady's)	201, 203
Andres Colon (P.B.)	201
Bob Rolison (P.W.I.L.)	200
Les Gundel (W.H.)	200

Angelo Maggio (P-I)	200
Al Welinski (S.I.)	200

In the team standings, only one team made a dramatic move toward the top. The Wooden Horse leaped from 8th place to 3rd position on 2/2, establishing a comfortable three-game buffer between themselves and their nearest threat.

1. Play With It. Ltd.	37½	16½
2. Pin Pals	35	19
3. Wooden Horse	34	20
4. Badlands	31	23
5. Sweet Inspirations	31	23
6. Grady's	30	24
7. Different Strokes	30	24
8. Pilner I	29½	24½
9. Pendulum	29	25
10. S.F. Eagle	29	25
11. Park Bowl	28	26
12. White Swallow	28	26
13. Pilner II	27	27
14. Atherton Hotel	26½	26½
15. Stagecoach	25	29
16. Pilner 3	25	29
17. D. Kelsey's		
Unmentonables	24½	29½
18. Ambush	23½	30½
19. Pilner Playmates	21	33
20. Temptations	20	34
21. Pipeline	18	36
22. Animals	14½	39½

There you have the hottest league in the city.

### Different Spokes

The Different Spokes Bicycle Club has scheduled an easy ride on Angel Island for February 13. Riders should meet at Pier 43½ at Fisherman's Wharf at 9:30 AM. Round trip ferry fare is \$6. Info: Frank, 751-3281.

An alternative Decide and Ride meets at 10 AM at McLaren Lodge in GGPark

### Track and Field

The San Francisco Track and Field Club, formed as a direct result of the overwhelmingly successful First Gay Games, welcomes all who would like to participate in track and field. The goal is to continue emphasizing participation and the pursuit of self-excellence encouraging support, mutual respect and friendly competition in the track and field setting. Interested? Come join the next Sunday practice. Info: 431-7021



This team is "The Temptations" (Photo: Rink)

### Pool Winners

by Gene Miller

Three members of the S.F. Pool Association were deserving recipients of Cable Car Awards, which they received at the awards show last Sunday. Colin Bradley was awarded a plaque inscribed Outstanding Sportsman of the Year. Barbara Steel won two awards, Outstanding Contribution to Athletics and Outstanding Sportswoman of the Year. Luby Pelletier received his award for Outstanding Contribution to Athletics. Congratulations — the League is proud for you!

### Women's Open Mike

The SF Women's Building Open Mike is held each Thursday at 8:30 p.m. All women performers are welcome. Dancers, magicians, jugglers, poets, comedians, musicians, and the undefinable. No audition is necessary, just come at 7:30 PM to sign up. The suggested donation is \$2. Info: Deena at 431-1180

### THE STRIP:

LET'S GO DOWN TO  
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The Wooden Horse bowling team. (Photo: Rink)



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## MY KNIGHTS IN LEATHER

More News Than You Thought Possible

KARL STEWART

### MOVING KNIGHT

The knights were aglow, with honorees all about at the 1983 Cable Car Awards. While interminably lengthy, the entertainment was top-notch. Some of the So/M knights garnered laurels, as *The Maids* took Outstanding Achievement in Theater. The Brig's very excited Larry Glover, of the show's cast, accepted for 544 Natoma, which produced the play. We were presented some fine and moving video presentations by Genita Amathone documenting the Gay Games and the Gay Freedom Day Celebration. Outstanding Club Recording went to dear Sylvester for All I Need. The Parade Committee concluded their awards with the Betsy Ross Award to Gilbert Baker for his Rainbow Flags and unflagging energy toward that celebration. The Sisters were awarded for their Gay sexual health guide "Come Clean."

In the Leather/Frat awards, Outstanding Event to A Date at Minsky's. Director Michael Gill was so excited he was at first speechless. Don Geist accepted the award for Outstanding Contribution to the Leather/Frat Community for Febe's fundraiser for Darryl Lotter.

### ONWARD...

JC was shocked (hard to shock this one) when he walked into the Atherton Hotel's Tribute to the SF Eagle a couple of Mondays ago. The reason was a replica of his huge Eaglehead, complete with pseudo-laser light. Great party!

Speaking of Pahrday!!!!!! The Butch Freeman/Larry Falk affair at Oasis last week was unreal. I think it's quite smart to invite 600 of your closest friends over for a little cocktail party. Mary Wells fed us her golden Motown apples and we loved her. She later told me her feelings about club music. "It's grown to be so mechanical," she said. "There's not much feeling in it." She went on to praise the work of Patrick Cowley for maintaining the feeling other music lacked. "I like Laura Branigan's music, too. Has lotsa fire. It's happy music." Along with her personal manager, Curtis Womack, the soft-spoken Ms. Wells is currently touring the country with not only her great old

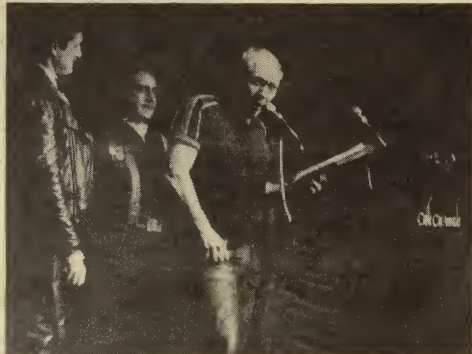


How to Enjoy Being Eaten Alive, a new course offered to friendly customers at The Bear on Castro Street. They've got two women bartenders, and when the boys get wild, watch out! (Photo: Rink)

stuff, but some new music as well. Go for it, Lady!

However, Mr. Brown of Oasis won that evening's award for the Slowest Bartender in the Universe. The Oasis boys should take the night off and watch Bob and Stella work the Saturday night crowd at the Eagle. Poetry in motion.

It is told among those who know that the Rawhide will be reopened this month by that original shit-kicker, Ray Chalker. He's expanding the dance floor and will introduce more foot stompin' down in that stretch of the range. Ya-hoo! ... The Forum has inducted the



Don Geist, Febe's owner, accepts a Cable Car Award for "Outstanding Contribution from the Fraternal Leather/Levi Community" for the fund raiser he threw in Darryl Lotter's benefit. (Photo: Rink)

Golden Gate Troopers as members. Congrats, men! ... Debonaire Leatherman Dennis Puccini has the Mark Cross Leathers concession here in town. He's having a sale at his Post and Grant Street nook. Brown for the day and black for the knights.

The Sisters' Basketball Game won the Cable Car Award for Outstanding Fundraiser, and they're immediately at it again. Saturday, March 5, at Kezar Pavilion they will present Dunk-Dance-Dribble and Shoot. Benefiting the Gay Band and the KS Foundation, they will feature Jeanie Tracy and her Dreamboys, followed by Tyne Mouton with Sr. Frieda Peoples manning (and I use that term loosely) the DJ booth. Srs. Vicious Power-Hungry Bitch and Frieda Peoples are the honchos for this one. Good luck, girls.

### MOUNTED KNIGHTS

The Warlocks is one of the few MC's in SF who require their members to be mountable. Let me rephrase that. They have to own a motorcycle. Febe's was host to their open meeting last week. It marked the departure of Richard Rodick, who is off to Washington, D.C., on the road to higher career goals. He was the presenter of some special awards to their members. The Clutz award goes to Myra and Russ for shocking campsite behavior. Chuck received the Activity Merit award for most documented appearances. "I'm shocked," he said later; "I thought Lurch would win for sure."

Rider of the Year was taken by Frank Rauch for some pretty hot driving this year. Man of the Year, for his outstanding contribution, was taken by Artist Augustus Ginochio. Richard was presented with a Walt Febe photo of "The Bridge" to remember us by. So long, buddy ... much love goes with this one.

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# ANIMALS

## BATH HOUSE

★★★  
Matt and Gene served up calm conversation and a warm fireplace to the friends and lovers of the MC community in honor of Richard Rodick and Bill Donovan's departure. Gene's award-winning pictures were outshone only by the warm glow of friendship.

On the same eve, and across the street from one another, the Jaguar celebrated their 13th year and Moby Dick their 5th. Hoppin' parties.

The CMC will celebrate an even more amazing birthday on April 23 at CalHall — number 20. They are planning some top-notch pros to entertain you and food and booze for daze. You can help this motor club by exhuming any CMC relics or antiquities like ex-members and former Mr. CMC Carnivals, for instance. Drop a note to me at B.A.R. and I'll forward it to them.

More but further Tales of the Golden Duck: Nicky tells me the  
(Continued on next page)



## KNIGHTS

(Continued from previous page)

only thing more amusing at the GranDucks' Theater Party, which took in The Enclave at Theatre Rhino, was Kitty passing out.

That slut Naomi Del Ray turned 40 and was she surprised to find 40 of her friends in her living room ready for a party! Happy birthday, Baby!

### THEY HUNG

We've watched Jim Leff's work grow stronger with each showing. The SF Eagle grouping is the most diverse and stable yet. Beyond his well-known tough-guy images such as "Caught Again" (a cop) and "The Lineman," Jim's snow scene of a "Lone Rider" in the moonlight and his set of portraits of the Eagle and Ambush are good. "I'm doing a series of So/M bars. You'll see more of 'em," says Jim. At Jim's reception, John Schmidt of Atlas fame and Cable Car Awards' Bob Cramer were seen in a deep discussion on how diverse and accepting our community is. Nice to know you can let your hair down, somewhere. So/M is our playground and workshop.

The creator of the "Sleeze At-

tack" album cover, James Ayre, moved his architectural stylings onto the walls of The Stables this week, moving X-ray art closer to the heart of So/M. You can take his work home with you, in the form of the Sleaze Attack, available at the Trading Post for \$10.95.

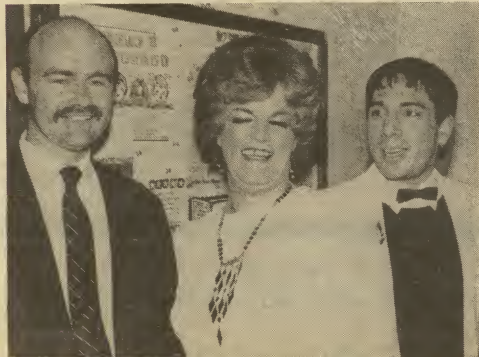
Did someone mention sleaze? The much-painted Lou Rudolph opened his new show, "American Expressionism," also at the Ambush. These large performance pieces recall the antics of such new wavers and punkers as The Viktims, Lewd, as well as David Gallegos' recent birthday at 544 Natoma. On a departure from Lou's energetic style is a calm, much smaller portrait of singer Donna Franklin.

Robert Uyvari has a delightful show of watercolors up at Numbers at Sacramento and Fillmore. Its strength, confidence, and sometimes defiance, matched with the unmistakable softness of a Gay man's eyes, makes this show worth the trip to PacHeights. ■

K. Stewart

### Karl's Calendar

Friday, 2/11: Cockfights.



The much maligned Kitty (center) up on her feet at the theatre party AIDS benefit. Propping her up are Dr. Michael Gorman (left), a member of the AIDS Task Force, and ENCLAVE costume designer Nick Pappagallo. (Photo: Rink)



Artist Lou Rudolph, happy over his new show, AMERICAN EXPRESSIONISM, at the Ambush. (Photo: Rink)

Savages, 8pm; sexual wrestling. BYOBeer.

Samois' Valentine Dance and Uniform Contest. Ollie's Radclyffe Hall, 4130 Telegraph, Oakland; 9pm; \$5. \$50 prize for best uniform; ID required. Women only, guys!

Saturday, 2/12: Mardi Gras Ball '83. Civic Auditorium, 8pm-3am; \$20. Featuring The Village People, Gary & Gloria Poole, St. Tropez. Costume Prize \$1,000, plus trips.

A Valentine's Party. The Woods, Guerneville, 9pm-4am; DJ Paul Dougan.

Hot Pink. The Boys' Gym at 1052 Geary, 10pm-6am; \$7 adv, \$8.50 door.

Sunday, 2/13: Valentine's Day Jockstrap Contest. The End-Up, 8pm; MC Randy Johnson.

Red Party. The Trocadero Transfer; Tea Dance at 7pm, featuring The Village People at 11pm.

Reach In and Touch Someone. Animals, 7pm; one night memberships \$2; lockers \$2; rooms \$7 and \$10.

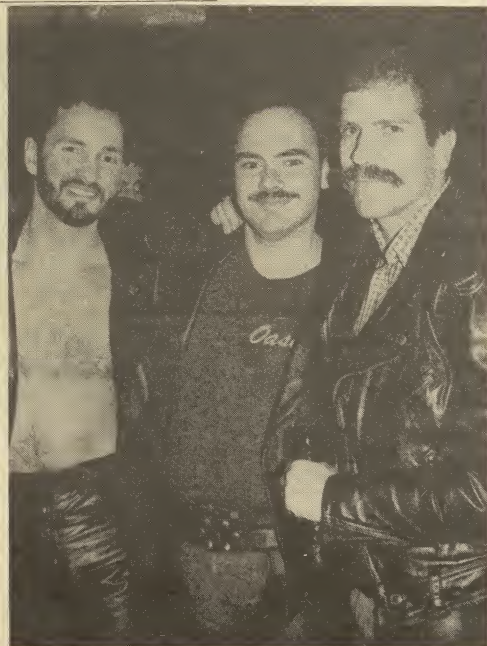
### Jazzrock

Automatic Pilot, San Francisco's erotic and satiric jazzwave band, will perform on Saturday, February 12th, at the On Broadway, with guests erotic dancer Margo Crossman and band Same As You.

Automatic Pilot's unusual music is a blend of jazzrock and new wave. Same As You will open the show with their own version of very different dance music. Showtime is 8 PM sharp. The On Broadway is located at 435 Broadway, near Montgomery. Automatic Pilot appears next at the Valencia Rose on Friday, February 18 with comedian Jane Dornacker. ■

### Phobia Fun

The Sexual Phobia in the Age of Herpes Show is the weighty title given to evenings of comedy and blues featuring Jon Sugar and Piano Joan. Scheduled for February 13 and 20 at the Valencia Rose at 8:30 PM, with \$2 admission, the show will include Bobby Kent's music, Felix Simon's dance and comic routines and poetry by Jim Peters and Lloyd Stensrud. The first show is a benefit for Operation Concern. ■



Oasis owner Larry Falk (center) enjoying the Black Sunday birthday party he threw for himself. With him are friends Scott (left) — and it's too bad you can't see the little spears piercing his tits) and John. (Photo: Rink)

### Legalize Brownies

"Brownie Mary" and Dennis Peron will host a benefit for Ms. Mary's legal expenses on February 15 at 9 PM at the Valencia Rose. Guest entertainers include Scoop Nisker, singer Black Berri, Lea DeLaria, Tom Ammiano and Sister Boom Boom. Donation is \$3. ■

### Comedy Benefit

Tom Ammiano, who refers to himself as a stand-up teacher, will perform in a stand up comedy benefit for the Gay Parade Committee, on Friday February 11, 10pm at the Valencia Rose, 766 Valencia. \$4 admission. Ruby Rodriguez will be a guest performer. ■

Lovers. Hothouse, 8pm; lockers \$5.

Monday, 2/14: Valentine's Day Camp Awards. Febe's, 8pm; voting 'til 10pm.

Valentine Sock Hop. The Pilsner Inn, 8pm-2am; featuring Empress Connie doin' Motown.

Ramrod's 15th Anniversary. Ramrod, 9pm; buffet and door prizes.

Buddy Night. Oasis, 3pm-2am; couples get 2 for 1 on well, beer, and schnapps.

Wednesday, 2/16: Border Riders' Open Meeting. Febe's, 8:30pm.

Friday, 2/18: Hothouse Holiday Nights. Parties each night through the 20th; doors open at 9pm.

Saturday, 2/19: Cherry Blossom Festival. The Cheaters MC. The Watering Hole, 3-6pm; \$7 for open well and beer, buffet.

Motorcycle Awards. Barbary Coasters MC. California Hall, 7pm; \$7.50 adv, \$10 door. No-host bar. BYO candelabra and pate.

Sunday, 2/20: Fetish and Fantasy. The Caldron, 9pm-6am.

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## SWEETLIPS SEZ

### Lithuanian?

DICK WALTERS



Mega-wigs! Actually, when you have to leave your handbag home, just stow those little compacts and lip gloss sticks under your hairdo . . . Char and Dee Dee Love and the 1983 Coronation. (Photo: Rink)

Remember to be nice to your sweetheart this Valentine's Day and send some flowers or get some candy and take them to dinner in one of the

great gay restaurants we have in this city.

Savages is all that the name implies and, take it from one



The Countess Sophia, who revealed she is a former Empress of Miami, luxuriated at the 1983 Coronation in Oriental garb. (Photo: Rink)

## OAKLAND

(Continued from Page 17)

plays at being serious. . . unless the chips are down. Then watch out! Peter is self assured and secure because of his lover. Peter is unpredictable. Peter makes a promise and then immediately forgets to whom he made the promise and why. Peter is somewhat of a pushover. . . and he wishes that the people who owe him money would at least make a gesture of paying it back! Peter is a listener and a watcher. Peter is suspicious of uncertain motives. Peter likes to play with people's minds. . . and, er, ahem. . . harumph! Peter totally dislikes insincerity and phoniness. Peter doesn't always call

when he is supposed to, right Ralph? Peter is an extremely lucky person to have Ralph.

As for Who is Nez Pas? Nez Pas is a BITCH!

★ ★ ★

My apologies to Brian Cyle for the inaccuracies he spotted in the published version of my interview with him. It was not my intention to disparage Mr. Cyle or any of his relations and friends.

★ ★ ★

Until next issue, when I'll do some things past, and up comings, remember that until recently you thought I was someone you knew! Keep smiling!

Nez Pas

who knows, you can have a really savage time at this private club. . . once you know where all the nooks and crannies are. . . so go down to 220 Jones Street and join.

It seems as if the First Empress de San Francisco has a new Prince Consort who is a very prominent producer in our town.

The Sisters of Perpetual Indulgence are presenting "Dunk, Dance, Dribble & Shoot" on Saturday, March 5, at Kezar Pavilion which will be a benefit for the S.F. Gay Freedom Marching Band, Gay Men's Chorus and the Sisters.

Had a lovely dinner in Opera Plaza the other nite with David Hamilton from Portland, Howard of the 'Kokpit,' and Keith McLips. . . you didn't think that I could keep it secret that Mame was coming to town, did you, Howard? She's on her way to New Orleans and the Mardi Gras.

Yes, Michael Winnings is back at Twin Peaks after being out for a few weeks with a broken ankle. Nice to see your smiling face again Michael. Do like your new betrothed.

Yes, Reba is still holding forth at 'Queen Mary's Pub' and is trying to get Queen Elizabeth to drop in for a cocktail whilst she is in town. Reba knows all the reigning Royalty. . . hi, Casey!

Hope you all enjoyed the 'Cable Car Awards' as much as I did. Just about everyone was there and you got to see and meet a lot of OLD friends that you don't see every day.

Polk Street Salvatore—you did a nice job on writing up the article on Bob Cramer. . .



SCREAMGIRLS is the name of the group, not what you do when you see Miss X and Tippi (top) surrounding Doris Fish (bottom) and no pun intended!

you should do some more writing, as you are very witty . . . love ya.

A big birthday party is coming up at the Red Eye Saloon on the 22nd of this month. I'll give you the gruesome details in the next issue. Keep that Tuesday open for a fun-filled evening.

The next Tavern Guild meeting is at the Atherton

Hotel's Abbey Room on Tuesday the 15th. The meeting was to be at The Answer in Redwood City, but the girls want to postpone this meeting 'til a later date when the weather is better. . . a wise decision.

By the way, there's a Lithuanian Party at the Gangway Wednesday, February 16.



## COCKFIGHTS/ Friday February 11

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## PORN CORNER

### Love and Lust From A Distance

KARR

I bear a strong allegiance to filmmaker Tom DeSimone, for he made *The Idol*. A rare movie, it stirred my heart as well as my cock. Romantic that I am, I'll always value lust with love over lust alone. Other DeSimone features include *Wet Shorts* and *Flesh and Fantasy*. He's made many other films, using different names on their credits. Given the time and the money to pull off a better job, however, he'll stick the DeSimone monicker on it. This usually means better production values, perhaps a lengthier shooting schedule, and the time to edit and market the resulting flick as if it were a movie. It's obvious that such care has gone into his latest feature, *Skin Deep*. Its story attempts a commentary on the difficulty of mixing love and sex, the casting is meticulous, and production values high. If it is not finally successful in all particulars, it still includes some hot scenes.

True, my expectations may have been unrealistically high, but the flaws of *Skin Deep* concern an area where DeSimone has always excelled. This is the relationships shared by actors in the film. DeSimone's actors usually couple with urgency, displaying either passion or rapt concentration. Yet several of *Skin Deep*'s fucks are carried off as if by rote. Well-hung, handsome men act like fuck-machines, without a shred of human emotion or involvement. It's possible this was done on purpose, to carry out the story line's exploration of a porn-writer's inability to deal humanly with sex away from the printed page.

The author writes the hottest fiction, turns to a hustler for sex and is surprised that their dynamite coupling lacks emotional wallop. You can't buy love, and the hustler tries to teach that to the author. Only when the author accepts the hustler outside of his professional capacity does an actual relationship take root. While this sounds simplistic, it has resonance far beyond the hustler/customer relationship. How many of us look for love or emotion at the baths, the glory holes, or with the attractive stranger? Generally speaking, you won't find mental fulfillment in those places. You can exhaust your body physically with careless ease, but it's rare in such a situation to find love along with release. DeSimone tells us to change our expectations, to treat those strangers, those sex objects we're driven to find, those numbers we're forced to collect, in a new manner.

The freedom of impersonal sex not only draws the semen from your cock, but the soul from your coupling.

★ ★ ★

If the mechanical action of the sex scenes in question is a purposeful attempt to underscore the movie's concept, it must be considered a failed idea. The connection is tenuous at best, and the scenes become vacuums, absorbing the

visualization of the porn-author's writing and share some exquisitely erotic kissing before proceeding to rimming and an ass-stretching fuck. Canali is a master fucker. His loose balls slap with each stroke against Mathews' smooth ass with a force that had me jumping to each beat. Canali's orgasm is not seen, but Mathews shoots a fountain from his handsome cock.

Canali has never been a charismatic star, but his lack of personality has always been vanquished by his sexual prowess and heavy meat. Not quite so here, where an unusual distancing effect took over, leaving one to appreciate the scene while remaining unaroused.

Ditto with the incomparable Chris Burns, a tidy lad I've been

wonder, his skin stretched tautly over sinewy muscles. His small size and big manner ("a mixture of country boy and street-wise tough" writes the author in the movie) mark him uniquely, as does his fondness for dildoes. He's possessed by one here in a lunging scene that ends with Burns displaying his cock for a strong JO orgasm.

Michael Christopher appears "in his first starring role" as a hustler who is not as dumb as he looks. Disregarding this possible intelligence, Christopher seems perfectly typecast. He's large, a proverbial brick shit-house. His tits are as big as Montserrat Caballe's, but hard. His cock is redwood-tree thick at the base, seems as hard as this tree, and he stands straight on sturdy legs. I hope you like him; he's already set to star in several more films. His face is curious, an immobile parafin construction that threatens to crack and fall away, like Vincent Price's in *House of Wax*. It never does, so I don't know if anybody's in there. He's not only blank, but ugly in a butch way that's handsome, finally reminding me of a cross between Charles Bronson and Howdy Doody. But oh, can that boy fffffffx-trot!

The center of the movie, although he appears more for Christopher's use than as a star, is Johnny Daws, a veteran porn star who ought to be receiving top billing and the sperm deposits of millions of nighttime fantasies. Well-built, handsome, healthily cocked, and displaying a strong personality and great cheekbones, Daws draws attention even when the camera is gloating on Christopher. He's the confused author with an infatuation for Christopher. Pulling up alongside Christopher's sidewalk office, Daws asks him home. "That'll be three times this week," monotonizes Christopher. "I'll still have to charge you for it."

"I can still afford it," answers Daws, and they scoot off to Daws' home, where Johnny works over the goods he's buying. He savors Christopher's lips and tongue, chews the copious tits, and sucks the engorged dick while Christopher stands mute. He awakens to pull Daws around for a good 69. Soon Daws is sinking his two half-melons of a perfect ass onto Christopher's cock for a lusty fuck culminating in an orgasm of thick and gooey globs. Christopher, disappointingly, doesn't cum like the star he's billed as, rating low in quantity and force.

Daws later tells Christopher he's a porn writer, to which the hustler replies, "We're the same. You lay it out on paper and I lay it out on the sheets."

Daws wants Christopher to move in, but makes the mistake of paying him. He's accused of want-

ing a fictional lover, the "character" of a hustler. This hustler knows the difference between the fiction of a hustler and a hustler's private life. Daws has been needing love, but all he was looking for was sex. When he realizes this and declares (in a roundabout fashion) his need for Christopher, the hustler moves in.

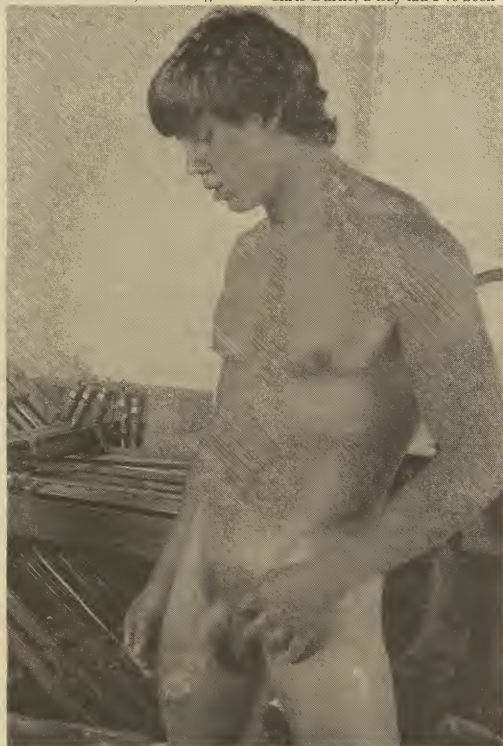
But not without a surprise dream sequence to end the film. Christopher fucks Daws to consummate their arrangement, but the fiction-crazed Daws imagines all the other characters in the film taking turns in his ass as well as Christopher. They all jack off on him simultaneously for a grand finale.

Daws, still in love with fiction and fantasy, opens his eyes to find Christopher alone. Yet now he can love this man, too, and in "reality." Unfortunately, we never see Christopher's final orgasm. As the symbol of their new, unspoken commitment, it should have been a fireworks and shooting stars doozy. Although Christopher's cock is always up, he doesn't seem to be up to this sort of star performance.

*Skin Deep* is a film for fuck fans, with a large quantity of sex. Although I found it lacking in emotion, the sex is otherwise of four-star quantity. I previewed a videocassette, with the usual excellent sound, color, and focus of all Catalina Video products. *Skin Deep* may not fully encompass the vision Tom DeSimone had for it, but the action of Daws, Burns, Christopher and others will take me to it again.

Karr

VHS and Beta cassettes of *Skin Deep* are available from Catalina Video, 256 S. Robertson Blvd., Beverly Hills, CA 92011.



Any photo flatters his body. Here's one that flatters his face. It's *SKIN DEEP* star Michael Christopher as he appears in Bill Higgins' *PRINTER'S DEVIL*. (Photo: Wm. Higgins Studio)

film's energy and detracting from its thesis. If not intentional, which I suspect is the case, I'm even more disappointed, for I can only count the scenes a disservice of Mr. DeSimone to some reliable and sexy stars.

Foremost among those is Giorgio Canali, almost unrecognizably sleek and urban with a short haircut and mustache. He's paired with Beau Mathews, who is handsome in body and face. They appear in a hot tub as the

given to gushing over at every appearance. Burns gets laid on a glass table in an executive's office, the clear surface allowing the camera to peer at some angles of Mr. Burns which haven't previously been explored.

Burns has perhaps the only cock and balls in the porn biz that can be described as pert. They're like a Chunky candy bar. Perhaps not the biggest sweet on the market, but a mouth-watering, solid chunk anyway. His whole body is a petite



This photo by local photographer Greg Day wasn't seen in the Cable Car Awards photojournalism contest; they felt it was more of an art piece. Nothing's too artistic for the B.A.R. Porn page. Enjoy! (Photo: Greg Day)

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\*Business office located at 13461 Aurora Dr., San Leandro CA 94577.

## Coming Attractions

The Nob Hill will soon be presenting another conceptual live show. This one has a name that matches the theatre's slick look. It's *Homovisuals*.

Meanwhile, the theatre is screening two films, *Top Man* and *Gemini*.

★ ★ ★

Savages has been escalating the capacities of their club as a sporting palace. The last "Cockfight" evening there was, by all reports, an erotic evening of wrestling as a prelude to (and sometimes combining with) sex play. More "Cockfights" occur in Savages' specially constructed arena on Friday, February 11.

They've still got films at Savages. The feature for a week, until February 18, is *La Sex*, of which Porn reporter Karr has never heard, and *Morning, Noon and Night*. This three-part movie is basically hot stuff, and includes a ferocious fuck scene with Joe Gage. It may be the famous filmmaker's only appearance in front of the camera, and it's hot.



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# An open letter to the gay community on hepatitis B

## Hepatitis B, a serious disease, may be sexually transmitted

Sexually transmitted diseases among the gay community are epidemic. Herpes has recently received a lot of attention; gonorrhea and syphilis are well known; but the Centers for Disease Control (CDC) recently issued a major recommendation for the prevention of another sexually transmitted disease: Hepatitis B. In their *Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Report*, the CDC stated: "Susceptible homosexually active males should be vaccinated [against hepatitis B] regardless of their age or duration of their homosexual practices."

## Gay men are at a high risk of contracting hepatitis B

In one study, from 51% to 76% of 3,816 gay men seen in five sexually transmitted disease clinics had evidence of past or present hepatitis B infection. Once infected, there's a 6% to 10% chance of becoming a carrier—capable of passing on the virus. The CDC estimated there are nearly 1 million carriers in the United States and that 100,000 of these carriers are gay men.

## The hepatitis B virus can be passed on by contact with contaminated body fluids

such as saliva, urine, semen, and blood. The hepatitis B virus can be transmitted through tiny breaks in the skin or contact with mucous membranes. This can occur during intimate sexual contact and can lead to hepatitis B for the partner of an infected person. Although most patients recover and over half contracting hepatitis B do not get symptoms, there is no specific treatment and no known cure for hepatitis B infections.

## Hepatitis B may lead to even more serious complications

For those who do get symptoms of hepatitis B, a mild or severe "flu-like" sickness may continue for weeks or months. Ten percent of all infections become long lasting (chronic) with potential complications that are sometimes more serious than those of other sexually transmitted diseases. The serious complications include the chronic carrier state, chronic active hepatitis, chronic persistent hepatitis, cirrhosis, and even cancer of the liver. Every year almost 4,000 carriers die of cirrhosis. In addition, carriers have a risk 273 times greater than that of the general population of contracting a usually fatal form of liver cancer.

## Now this serious sexually transmitted disease is usually preventable by vaccination with the new hepatitis B vaccine

After more than a decade of research and development, a new vaccine is available for prevention, *not treatment*, of hepatitis B. In clinical studies, the vaccine was highly effective in preventing hepatitis B infection and was generally well tolerated. No serious adverse reactions occurred in these studies.

The vaccination regimen consists of a series of three injections, the first two a month apart and the third, six months after the first. To be effective, the vaccine must be given before a person gets hepatitis B. The vaccine helps prevent the disease: It is *not effective as a treatment*. We suggest that you consult your doctor to determine if you should be vaccinated.

**For more information  
about hepatitis B and the  
vaccine to prevent it, contact  
your doctor, clinic, or the  
American Liver Founda-  
tion. 998 Pompton Avenue,  
Cedar Grove, NJ 07009  
(201) 857-2626.**

This message is brought to you as a public service by  
The American Liver Foundation

### Why you should consult your doctor or clinic

The vaccine helps protect against infection caused by hepatitis B virus. This virus is an important cause of viral hepatitis, a disease mainly of the liver. Even mild forms of this disease may lead to serious complications and aftereffects, including liver cancer. There is no specific treatment for viral hepatitis.

Vaccination is recommended for persons who have a higher risk of becoming infected with hepatitis B virus because of frequent, close contact with infected people or exposure to body fluids from such people. It will not

protect against hepatitis caused by viruses other than hepatitis B virus.

No serious adverse reactions were reported in over 6,000 individuals receiving the vaccine in clinical trials. The most frequent reaction was soreness at the point of injection; less common local reactions included redness, swelling, warmth, or formation of a hard, lumplike spot. The local effects were usually mild and lasted no more than 2 days after vaccination. Occasionally, low-grade fever (less than 101 °F) occurred. When it did, it usually lasted no longer than 48 hours following vaccination. In

rare cases, fever over 102 °F was reported.

More generalized complaints including malaise, fatigue, headache, nausea, dizziness, muscle pain, and joint pain were reported infrequently. Rash was reported rarely. As with any vaccine, broad use may reveal additional adverse reactions.

Your doctor or clinic knows what special care must be taken when administering the vaccine and in determining who should receive the vaccine. The vaccine is not intended for persons who are allergic to any of its components.